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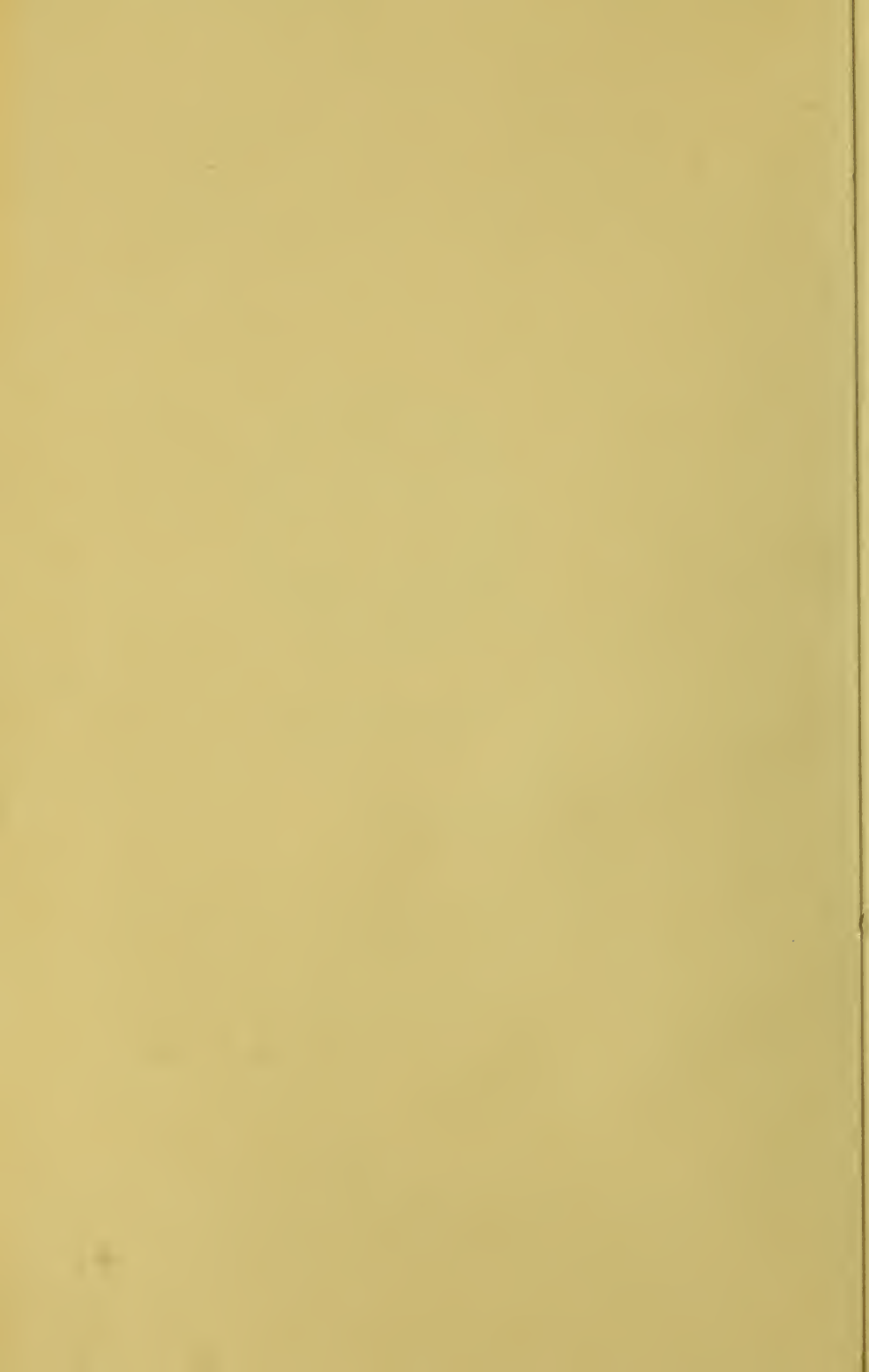
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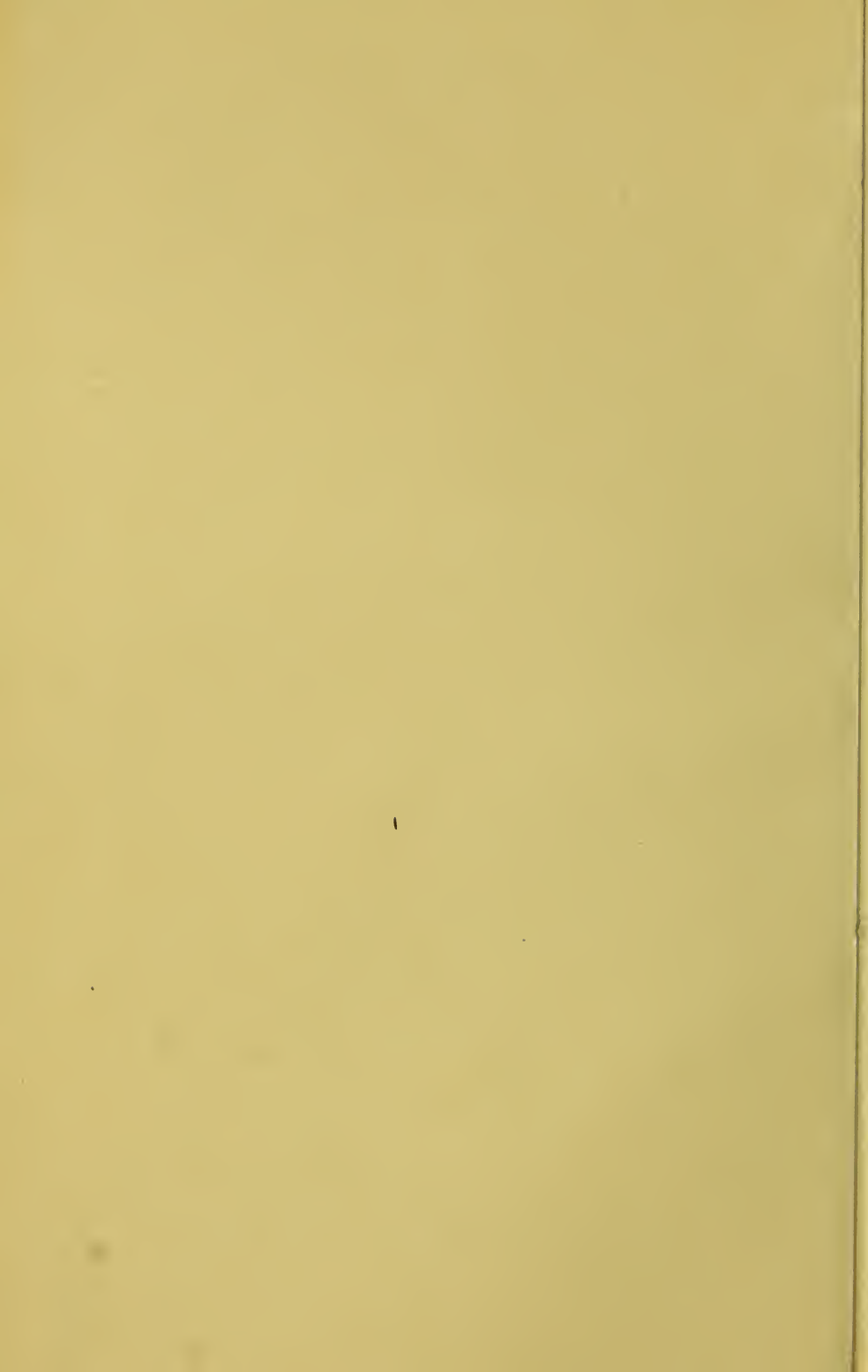
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THE

STATISTICAL ACCOUNT

OF

SCOTLAND.



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THE
STATISTICAL ACCOUNT
OF
SCOTLAND.

DRAWN UP FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS
OF THE
MINISTERS
OF THE
DIFFERENT PARISHES.

BY SIR JOHN SINCLAIR, BART.

VOLUME TWENTY-FIRST.

"Ad consilium de republica dandum, caput est nosse rempublicam."
CICERO de Orat. lib. ii.

EDINBURGH:

PRINTED AND SOLD BY WILLIAM CREECH;
AND ALSO SOLD BY J. DONALDSON. A. GUTHRIE, W. LAING,
AND JO. FAIRBAIRN, EDINBURGH; T. CADELL, J. DEB-
RETT, AND J. SEWEL, LONDON; DUNLOP AND WIL-
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ADVERTISEMENT

TO

VOL. XXI.

As this Volume contains the Additions and Corrections sent to the Author, together with a copious Index, the Statisttical Account of Scotland, is now as complete, as could possibly be expected, in the first edition of such a work; and nothing now remains, but to draw up an Analysis of the Political State of Scotland, or, the result of the whole enquiry, which I propose setting about without delay.

The Reader will perceive, that there is no separate account of the University of St. Andrews; which, indeed, was not essentially necessary, as Dr. Adamson has given, in his very satisfactory description of the town and parish of St. Andrews, a short, but distinct account of that ancient seminary of learning. Nor is there any account of the University of Edinburgh. For information on that subject, I must beg leave, for the present, to refer, to the histories of the Metropolis of Scotland, written by Maitland and Arnot. I have the satisfaction, however

ever, of adding, that Professor Dalzel is drawing up an historical work, on the University of Edinburgh, which, from what I have seen of it in manuscript, promises to be a very interesting and valuable performance.

I cannot conclude, without once more returning my best acknowledgements to the respectable Members of the Church of Scotland, for having enabled me to complete an undertaking, which certainly stands unrivalled for extent of useful information; and which may be imitated, but, considering the ability and exertions which they have exhibited on the occasion, cannot be surpassed, in any other country.

JOHN SINCLAIR.

Edinburgh, }
20th May 1799. }

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GENERAL APPENDIX

TO THE

STATISTICAL ACCOUNT

OF

SCOTLAND.

ADDITIONS TO VOLUME I.

N^o I. Page 1.

Parish of Jedburgh.

A more distinct statement of the population of this parish having been received since the publication of the former account, it is here inserted.

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Edgerston Barony, - - -	79	91	69	239
Ulfton, - - -	27	27	25	79
Oldhall, - - -	2	4	14	20
Stewartfield, - - -	5	6	5	16
Chapmanfide, - - -	4	2	-	6
Hundalee, - - -	10	6	1	17
Rattanraw, &c. - - -	24	21	22	67
Howden, - - -	2	3	5	10
Langlee, not distinguished	-	-	-	35
Hunthill, - - -	4	7	2	13
Carried over,	157	167	143	502

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A

	Men.	Women	Children.	Total.
Brought over,	157	167	143	502
Linthaulhlee, not distinguished	-	-	-	25
Mosturnford, do.	-	-	-	38
Kersheugh and Fairnyhirst, do.	-	-	-	94
Thickfide, -	5	3	3	11
Swinie, - - -	6	7	14	27
Harden-peel, not distinguished,	-	-	-	12
Wells, do. -	-	-	-	17
Crailling-mill, - -	-	-	-	15
Crailling-hall, - -	-	-	-	26
Upper Crailling, - -	-	-	-	48
Craigshiel, - -	-	-	-	13
Renniston, - -	-	-	-	9
Semmiton Townfoot, -	-	-	-	17
Semmiton Townfoot, -	-	-	-	12
Birneyrig, - -	-	-	-	5
Fendyhall, Scraiburgh, &c. not properly distinguished, }	-	-	-	144
	168	177	160	
Proportion of men, women and children, in such parts of the foregoing list as no distinction is made, calculated at the same rate as where they are distinguished, }	136	144	130	
	304	321	290	915
Langton, - - -	-	-	-	106
Timpendean, - - -	-	-	-	63
Bon-Jedward, - - -	41	57	66	174
Ancrum-bridge, - -	-	-	-	17
Montholy - - -	-	-	-	13
Town of Jedburgh, -	-	-	-	2000
				3288

N^o II. Page 18.*Parish of Holywood.*

Answers to the five additional queries transmitted by Sir John Sinclair, Bart. in his letter of 25th of Jan. 1791, by Dr Bryce Johnston; so far as they are applicable to the parish of Holywood in Dumfrieshire.

1st. There are two schools in the parish. The one is situated near the church, in the most populous part of the parish; and the other about four miles to the west of the church, for the accommodation of the distant parts of the parish. Both the school-houses were built, and fitted up with tables and seats, a few years ago, by the heritors; and are still in a state of good repair. The principal master teaches in the school near the church, and has a free dwelling-house adjoining to the school-house. In this school are taught the English, Latin, and Greek languages, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, and the principles of religion. The average number of scholars through the year is 50. The salary is L. 8 : 16 : 8 sterling; the school wages are moderate, and amount to about L. 9 : 15 sterling per year; the schoolmaster is precentor and session-clerk, for which he receives annually about L. 1 : 8 : 4: so that his whole emolument is a free house, and about L. 20 sterling in money.—In the second school are taught the English language, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, and the principles of religion. The salary appropriated to this school is L. 2 : 6 : 8 sterling per year; the school wages amount to about L. 6 : 13 : 4: so that the annual emolument of this schoolmaster is L. 9. For

his greater encouragement, the parents of the children who attend his school commonly give him bed and board free.

The schoolmasters are very attentive to their duty; and the two schools are regularly examined, twice every year, by the minister.

Considering the importance and labour of the office of a schoolmaster, and the greatly increased and increasing expence of living, the parochial school salaries in Scotland are exceedingly low. For the good of the country, the encouragement of learning, and the decent support of so useful a body of men as the parochial schoolmasters, they ought to be considerably augmented. As an heritor, I shall cheerfully concur with the landed interest of Scotland in promoting a purpose so necessary and so beneficial.

2d. There are only three houses in the parish which sell ale and Scottish spirits. They have, as yet, had no bad effects upon the morals of this people, who are sober and industrious. But, if a proper check shall not be soon given to the great number of whisky shops, and to the cheapness of whisky, in the country at large, the morals and the health of the lower classes of the people will be greatly injured by them.

3d. Within the last ten years, five sets of farm houses, including dwelling-house and offices, have been built; some others have been rebuilt, and none have fallen into a state of ruin. Since the middle of last March, a village was begun by Dr. Bryce Johnston: six houses are finished, and inhabited a considerable time ago; three more will be finished before Martinmas; and he intends next year to build as many as he has done this. He sets them to persons of different trades, for the accommodation of the country, and the encouragement of honest and industrious tradesmen. He finds
tenants

tenants as quickly as he can build the houses; and the tenants find abundance of employment.

The village is built at a small distance from the scite of the Druidical temple, on the side of the great turnpike road which leads from Dumfries to Edinburgh, Glasgow and Ayr. It is called *Druidville*; and he intends, this Winter, to plant a grove of oaks around it, in memory of the holy grove of the Druids, from which the parish has its name.

4th. Cottagers, or rather persons who are employed by the year as beneficers, as they are called here, have been much employed in this part of the country, and by few to a greater extent than by myself. They are of much more advantage to the farmers, to themselves, and to the country at large, than servants hired into, and who eat in the farmers' houses: because much more work is done by them at a cheaper rate, they much seldomer flit or change from their masters, population is encouraged; and their wives and children are useful to the farmer, and to themselves, by working at turnips, hay and harvest—and are thus habituated to sobriety and industry.

5th. There are no jail, jugs, nor any place of confinement or punishment in the parish. No persons belonging to this parish were imprisoned in any jail in the year 1790, nor are any causes known why any should have been imprisoned.

I am clearly of opinion, with you, that the Cheviot breed of sheep is much calculated for the parish of Holywood. But, as I am trying an experiment of a cross breed between Cui-ley's and Bakewell's sheep, as I formerly mentioned to you, and which is succeeding very well, I wish to bring this experiment to full perfection before I try any other breed; least, by any other mixture, my experiment should be defeated. My breed have a large and fine fleece of short wool,
and

and the sheep is very heavy. The four quarters of the ram, when fat, will weigh 112 lb. of 16 oz. in the pound. I clipped from him, this year, at one clipping, 7 lb. and 12 oz. of wool, of 24 oz. in the pound. The wool being worth 20s. the Scottish stone, his fleece was worth 9s. 4d.

The Rev. Dr. Burgess, minister of Kirkmichael, transmitted the subsequent observations on this parish.

On reading Dr. Johnston's very intelligent account of Holywood, the following remarks and additions, occurred :

1st. It does not seem probable, that the name, either of the monastery or the parish, could be derived from any grove of oak trees that might have surrounded the Druidical temple, which the Doctor describes : Because, in the *first* place, the order of Druids, according to the best accounts, had ceased in Scotland 7 or 8 centuries before the monastery was founded ; and of consequence, any groves of their planting would have perished, and any holiness ascribed to them been forgotten, for several ages prior to its foundation. 2^{do}. When the order of Druids existed, and for many years after it became extinct, the Gaelic was the general language, not only of Scotland, but of the whole island ; and it is hardly credible, that either the founder of the monastery, or the monks that were to serve in it, would have given a name to it, in the Saxon language, translated from the ancient language of the country, which had then ceased to be spoken for some ages. 3^{tic}. The Druidical temple, in question, stands half a mile and rather more to the S. W. of the old monastery, and has not now the least vestige of the grove of oak trees that might have surrounded it, nor is there any tradition about them ; whereas the oaks the Doctor mentions, grew on the opposite side of the monastery, viz. on the
N. W.

N. W. N. and N. E. and occupied a space of half a mile in length, and almost a quarter of a mile in breadth, along the fosse that served as a fence to the precincts on that side. *Lastly*, The seal of the monastery, impressions of which are still to be seen, appended to some old charters, had the following inscription: viz. *Sigillum Monasterii de Sacro Nemore*, which seems to indicate, that the *Nemus* or grove, from which the name of the monastery, and afterwards of the parish, took its rise, had been planted by the monks at the time of its foundation, or when it was a-building. And, as it was evidently intended, and perhaps formally consecrated, to shelter that sacred fabric and its ministers, from the sharpest and most stormy winds, it might very naturally be named the *Holy Wood*.

2d. To the article, *eminent men, natives of the parish*, should, in my humble opinion, be added:

“ But the famous *Joannes de Sacro Bosco*, author of the treatise *De Sphæra*, written in barbarous Latin, several centuries ago, would seem, from his local name, to have been either a native of the parish, or perhaps abbot of the monastery.” It is not improbable, that he was the John Wrich, or according to the old mode of spelling, Wricht, i. e. Wright, whose name, as the Doctor observes, is on one of the bells. Whatever may be in this, *Joannes de Sacro Bosco*’s book, *De Sphæra*, was put into better language by Franco Burgerfidiçius, in the year 1626, and appointed to be taught in the schools of the seven provinces, by order of the States of that country.

After these words, in the Doctor’s last paragraph, *higher than was ever known before or since*, should most certainly be added, “ excepting the year 1740, when it rose in the Dumfries market to 3s. 4d. the stone, and continued at that price for 6 weeks running.” Another exception probably
was

was "the 3 dear years," (as they are still called,) in the reign of King William, when oat-meal cost 3l. Scots, or 5s. sterling, the Dumfries peck streaked, which, as meal was then sold by measure, and of course ground very fine, would be above 4s. sterling the stone.

N^o III. Page 37.

Parish of Portpatrick.

Additional Observations and Corrections.

Military Road.—Here the great western, commonly called the great military road, from London, terminates. The honour of this is due to the present Marquis of Downshire. By means of this road, he has rendered Scotland accessible upon this side, and opened an immediate communication between this island and the north of Ireland. To his Lordship also, I believe, we owe the Quay, the foundation of all our improvements; and his son, Lord Hillsborough, has now again taken a very active part in establishing the royal packets. The benefit of these arrangements is not confined to Portpatrick, but is essentially felt by both kingdoms.

Influence of Local Circumstances on Morals.—It has been already noticed that almost every house in this town is an inn, and it is pretty much the same case at Donaghadee. The effects of this local circumstance, upon the morals of the inhabitants, are bad, chiefly from the present mode of living of the sailors. The Donaghadee sailors, when they are in Portpatrick, live in these houses; as do our sailors when they are in Donaghadee. Living there, they must drink; and thus they

they contract bad habits. Hence the Irish sailors are riotous in Portpatrick, and the Scotch sailors in Donaghadee. When at home with their families, they are like other people. This might be remedied by a simple alteration—living when they are from home in their vessels. I am glad to understand that the royal packets are adopting this mode.

I cannot here avoid adding, that if any of our people do get into bad habits, they owe it, more than to any other cause, to the cheapness of whisky. The quantity brought here is amazing. If a stop is not soon put to this fatal drug, it must in a short time alter the species.

Robbery.—I cannot say if this be of sufficient importance to form an article. I can only tell you that disputes frequently arise between travellers and them; and that, bad as they are, these disputes often happen from strangers not comprehending perfectly the nature of the establishment. The present Marquis of Downshire had a difference with them which induced him to leave the ferry for some years.

School, Schoolmaster.—We have a school here without a schoolhouse, and a schoolmaster with a salary of a hundred merks. The number of scholars, when the school is at the best, is about forty. We hope soon, as our improvements proceed, to get a proper house built for a school, with a proper salary appended. The late Sir James Hunter Blair gave us a temporary house for a school, and also raised the salary; but, from circumstances not imputable to any body, it has fallen back again.

Errata —Page 39, line 22, “larger vessels,” rather “the vessels belonging to this port.”

Page 42, line 18, for "some companies," write "a company."

Page 46, line 27, "It is, however," &c. There seems to be a defect in this sentence; it should either be made two sentences, the last beginning with the word "as," or it may be written thus: "It is, however, more than probable, as Portpatrick was included in the antient kingdom of Galloway, and must of consequence have been inhabited by a tribe of the Celts."

Page 47, line 12, "at the change of the moon," write "at the change of the quarter." The former I find was a mistake.

N^o IV. Page 48.

Parish of Hounam.

Additional Observations, by the Rev. James Rutherford, Minister, by whom the former account of that district was sent, though his name was omitted to be mentioned.

Sheep and Wool.—Under the article, "Sheep and wool," add, Calves and young sheep, not only come sooner to their size when fed on turnip, but they rise to a far greater size than they would do if fed upon grass, at least on the natural grass of the high lands; and this no doubt is partly the reason that cattle in the low country are generally of a larger size than in hilly districts.

For two or three years preceding 1791, wool laid with tar sold here and in the neighbourhood from 14s. to 17s. per stone; white wool, or wool not laid with tar, from 17s. to 19s. Some wool very lightly laid with tar brought

17s. 6d. This last kind is by many dealers preferred to the white. One guinea was given for the wool of Paston, lower in the country on the English side, and the highest price given for wool on the border; 19s. was but rarely given in 1790, when wool sold rather higher than it has ever been known to do. Of laid wool seven or eight fleeces go to the stone; of white wool nine or ten; of the long wool near the foot of the water Kale, 4 or 5 fleeces go to the stone, and it sells at 16s. per stone. The farmers are under the necessity of going from home to seek a merchant for their commodities. People of substance, most commonly from England, travel the country at a stated season, for the purpose of buying the wool, generally at the end of June or beginning of July. The price is usually paid when the wool is bought, or on a near day. The same mode takes place with regard to the disposal of the sheep at a different season, which is usually the end of harvest. People from England, and the low country of Scotland, buy the ewes and wedders at this time of the year, for feeding fat on turnip through the winter. The wedder sheep sell about 5s higher each than ewes.

It is generally supposed by the farmers in this district that a manufactory established in this part of Scotland would be of considerable advantage to the country. It is true there is a carpet manufactory at Hawick, but that makes use only of coarse wool, and is generally supplied with wool from the west part of Scotland. There is also a manufactory at Hawick and Galashiels for cloth; but, though flourishing and highly creditable to the undertakers, yet they are established on a small scale, and at a distance from this part of the country where the best wool abounds. Kelfo, or its neighbourhood, one would imagine, should be a favourite spot for that purpose. The best wool would be at command, and the carriage would be inconsiderable. The advantages to

the country would certainly be great. It is a pity but that the gentlemen of the Merse and Teviotdale would take the hint. They are by no means defective in public spirit. Unless such an undertaking be supported by the landed interest, there would be little hope of success. A private individual, fearful of the event, will not be willing to launch into such a work;—and few, if they had spirit, have the means requisite to carry it on with advantage. Such a plan, properly executed, would facilitate very sensibly the rise of the value of land in this district. It would at the same time obviate a complaint, perhaps justly made by the farmers, that though the wool brings a good price, yet they receive not its full value, because there is no competition, but what arises from different persons carrying wool to the same market, who can combine together and regulate the price. By a manufactory so near too, the farmers might easily come to acquire the art of sorting the wool properly, which might turn considerably to their emolument.

A plan of this kind will not fail, it is to be hoped, to receive assistance, should the proposed canal take place between Kelso and Berwick: a work which would also redound to the great benefit of the country, should it be only to rouse a spirit of enterprise in the nation. But other obvious advantages are not wanting. The practicability of carrying the canal up the Teviot, as far as Ancrum bridge, is not disputed, perhaps it may be carried much higher up the river. Corn, which is raised in far greater quantities than is wanted for the supply of home consumption, by these means, would easily be conveyed to Berwick, where there is often a considerable demand for it, and which cannot be sent but at great expence, the distance between Berwick and Ancrum bridge being 30 miles. Coal and lime (articles of the greatest importance of all) could be brought at a reasonable

able rate from the neighbourhood of Berwick, on the English side, where they abound, to Kelso, Jedburgh, and even Hawick, and all this extensive and populous country. And thus would it afford in a great measure the means of producing those internal resources necessary to compensate the expence of so great a work. Many and wonderful are the canals that are cut in England; some of them through large rocks and the highest hills. They have always defrayed the expence laid out in making them, and have been one great source of the riches of that kingdom.

State of the Church, and of the Poor.—With regard to the legal method of provision for the poor in Scotland, the mode of procedure observed in this parish is as follows—Intimation of the meeting is made from the desk by the clerk of the kirk session after divine service. Ten free days intervene between the intimation and the meeting. On the day of meeting the heritors choose a preses. The clerk then reads over the minutes of the former sederunt. All applications of the poor are made to the preses. To those, who, through accidental misfortune or disease, apply for support, is given interim supply; that is, supply for that quarter only, or so long as the present occasion may require. The roll of the poor being made up, the names are read over by the clerk; and each have a sum allotted to them according to their circumstances, as can be learned from the petitioners themselves, the minister, or any of the elders, or tenants present. The sum to each is marked opposite to their names. The names being gone through, the amount is summed, and ordered to be levied equally on the heritors and tenants. On the admission of any person on the roll, an inventory is taken by the clerk of his effects, which then become the property of the heritors. The money thus assessed is levied by the clerk,

clerk, and put into the hands of two or three persons chosen annually as overseers for the poor. These persons living in different parts of the parish, the money is speedily and faithfully distributed to the poor. The minister alone, if nobody attends according to the intimation, can assess for the poor. They are not suffered to want on account of the negligence of heritors, and the deed of the minister is valid.

The weekly collections in the church are, by law, the property of the session, for behoof of the poor; and are usually given to such as are known by the minister and elders to be in necessitous circumstances, and who through modesty do not apply for the legal provision.

There are no records of the poor rates farther back than the year 1749. That year 10 names are on the roll. The highest sum given to one person per quarter is 9s: the total sum is L. 3:3. The list of names from that time does not much increase; some years it decreases. In the year 1756, a year of great scarcity, the names on the roll are 11, and 7 to whom interim supply is given; in all 18. The total supply is L. 9:1. But the heritors, at same time, uplifted money belonging to the poor, and out of that fund they bought up oat meal and bear-meal, and sold it to the poor on the roll, and to others who could produce a line from the minister of their necessitous situation, at 2d per stone below market price. In the year 1759, the price of victual was greatly fallen. Those on the roll being only 9, and for interim supply 4; the sum to the whole is L. 4:16. In the year 1767, the number of poor is 14; the sum assessed for L. 3:16. In the year 1783, a year also of scarcity, the number of poor is 19, including those for interim supply; the sum assessed L. 12:10:3. In 1784, the number of poor is 14; the sum assessed L. 10:11. In 1790, the number of poor is 13; the sum assessed L. 10:19:6. The highest pension to one person is L. 1:19,
and

and L. 1 : 1 ; the lowest to each 10s, and 7. 6d. The average to each is nearly 17s quarterly.

From the above account, it appears that the number of poor is rather increased, but not in proportion to the rate allowed them.

Errata.—The words “ wet and spungy,” page 49, ought to have been altered into “ dry and somewhat spouty on the sides up the hills :” a very material alteration.

I also beg leave to observe, that the circumstance mentioned of the Kale water breed of sheep, not being agreeable to fact, had better been omitted ; there is really no such specification as the Kale water breed. The information respecting this was not given by me. I was rather surprised when I saw it.

Causes of Depopulation.—As the number of births, from the Union to about the time of the last rebellion, according to the records of the session, was diminished, it is natural to suppose that the number of inhabitants was diminished in the same proportion. This diminution may easily be accounted for, from the free and safe communication which the Union immediately opened, between two formerly hostile and contending nations. By the union of the two crowns and the two parliaments, an open intercourse would take place, national antipathies would cease, the effects of interest and ambition would operate, and the result would be, as was easily foreseen, that many would emigrate from the poorer to the richer country. This spirit of emigration might be increased by a law in our natures, which leads men in cases where they have been restrained in any great degree to run, where it is in their power, to an opposite extreme.

The above is a cause no doubt assignable for the decrease
of

of inhabitants on this side of the border at large during the period here referred to. But I believe it is not the cause of the late great depopulation. The emigration from either side seems to be mutual. It is somewhat remarkable that several of the shepherds, and some of the most substantial farmers in the parish have come over to reside here from the English side. This however does not in general happen in other parishes; and I know not in any instance, that an individual from the Scottish side, has emigrated to England, (I mean in this district of parishes,) and settled there as a resident farmer, although many rent small farms in England, which often suit well for raising young sheep, to be afterwards laid on the large farms here.

The number of deaths in the parish is to the births as 4 to 12: there must be an increase therefore, at least, of 8 souls every year to the parish. This would soon occasion a considerable surplus of inhabitants more than could be accommodated with houses, or with the means of life: they therefore must separate and disperse annually in all directions; some to the towns and villages of the neighbourhood, some to England, where servants wages are rather higher than in Scotland, and some to America and the Indies.

The great and most obvious cause of the decrease of the inhabitants, within the last thirty or forty years, is owing to the (perhaps too general) practice of letting the lands in great farms, and to the mode of agriculture now almost universally adopted, especially since sheep and wool brought so high a price, of laying down the whole lands in grass. The lands formerly, from 40 to 100 years back, were parcelled out into four times, at least, the present number of farms: there was also much of these farms in tillage: and consequently a greater number of people could be maintained, and more hands would be necessary for carrying on
the

the labour of the lands. So late as the year 1756, there were no fewer than seven tenants, with large families, on the lands of Hounam, now all rented by one tenant, who employs only one shepherd. There were also several small lairds: their lands are lost in the large farms, their names extinguished, and their mansions confounded in the dust.

Though this last cause operates most strongly in depopulating the parishes where the monopoly of farms is frequent, yet it is by some made a question whether it tends to depopulate the country at large in any great measure. No doubt the towns and villages will increase as the country parishes diminish; and therefore, in this district, the villages of Yetholm and Morbattle have of late considerably augmented in the number of inhabitants and houses: yet it does not seem to be in the same proportion as the country districts around them have diminished. In this parish, where the real rent is L.2720, were the farms four times the present number, namely 56, or the lands divided into farms of L.50 each, which would amount to much the same number, at least 54, in this case there would be fifty-four or fifty-six tenants in the parish, instead of fourteen, the present number; and each of whom might have a large family of his own, and employ a shepherd, who might also have a family; and the other inhabitants and cottagers might be the same in number as at present. This, surely, would make a prodigious odds in favour of the population of the parish, and afford also a sufficient extra number who would find it necessary to withdraw to the towns and villages. Country places, too, are more favourable than towns, to the rearing of young children: here they are healthier, and thrive better.—Besides, hinds and shepherds, driven from their native abodes and manner of life, will be disheartened, and discouraged from marrying: it will be with difficulty they can afterwards find the means of subsistence.—

It is observable, that in England, which is far more populous and richer than Scotland, the monopoly of farms is little known. In many places of Scotland, particularly the district to which Hounam belongs, a single individual has not only united four or five farms into one, in one parish, but has several farms united in this manner, in different parishes. These circumstances taken together surely make it very evident, that the monopoly of farms, and increase of pasturage, is a great injury to the population of the country at large.

Houses.—As the number of inhabitants has rapidly diminished, of course there are many empty houses in the parish, and many have of late been demolished. In the year 1775, there were no fewer than nine houses, with cottagers in them, at a place called Mainfide, all of whom I visited on my admission. In one year after, or two at most, the whole of them were thrown down, to make way for a single farmhouse and its offices. The farmers, too, paying more attention to their sheep walks than formerly, will hardly allow a single house to stand on any part of their farm, except such as are necessary for their shepherd's accommodation, that the sheep may not be disturbed by the passing of people to and from the houses. For some few years after my admission, there were three corn milns and kilns in the parish; and for some years past there has been only one, and that one not very much frequented. The houses pulled down, and uninhabited, within the last ten or fifteen years, will amount to above 30; not above 4 or 5 houses rebuilt.

Water of Kale.—Kale takes its rise in the parish of Oxnam, not far above the Hindhopes. It runs meandering, in almost

almost one plain haugh between hills, from its rise, through part of the south-east side of Oxnam, through the middle of Hounam and of Morbattle parishes, till it enters the parish of Eckford, a little above Marlefield house: then it is more confined between rising banks, and runs more rapidly, till it falls into the Teviot, a little below Eckford kirk. The Kale contains a fine red delicious trout, some of them of a large size, and in great quantities. The banks of the water are little encumbered with wood; so that the angler meets with no annoyance in the pursuit of his diversion.

State of the School.—There is one public school in the parish, situated near the kirk, in the centre of the parish. The schoolmaster has a good dwelling house, and a salary of L.8:6:8. His scholars are about 16 or 18 in number. He only teaches to read English, to write, and keep accounts. Scholars for reading pay 1s. 3d. per quarter; reading and writing, 2s.; and when arithmetic is taught, the school wages are 2s. 6d. per quarter. The emoluments of the schoolmaster as session clerk is about L.1:5—as clerk to the heritors, L. 3 per annum. His house and school are kept in repair at the expence of the heritors.

Alehouses, and State of Religion.—The number of alehouses in the parish are two. The effect they have is rather unfavourable to the morality of the people; who are, however, in general piously disposed, and rational in their religious sentiments: which is perhaps somewhat the more remarkable, as Gateshaw is bordering on this parish, where there has been, from the beginning of the Secession, a meeting-house of the wildest kind of Seceders, the Antiburghers, who are zealous in disseminating their principles, not supposed very favourable to morals and true piety. These people were

formerly numerous in the parish: they are now dwindled much away, and there are not twenty of all the different denominations of Seceders; and of that number there is but one small tenant. There is but one person, a tenant, of the episcopal persuasion: not one Catholic, though they abound on the opposite side of the Fells.

Servants.—As there is but little tillage, few cottagers are employed in agriculture. It is the opinion of the farmers; that cottagers make the best servants; and that the family of a hind, or cottager, employed to work in husbandry, is enabled to live better than the family of a hired servant. A hired servant gets his wages in money, perhaps L. 7 per annum; a hind gets what is called boll, that is, a certain number of bolls of corn, and sometimes a cow also grazed, which is very convenient where there is a family of young children. A cottager gets wages at the rate of a shilling per day, victuals included; but works more hours, and more constantly, than a hired servant in general does. The customs of the people are much the same; but their stile of living is better, and their drefs far more gay, than it was 15 or 20 years ago: this is observable in no class more than among servants.

Birds and Game.—The same birds are found here that are common in other parts of Scotland. In the Spring and Summer, the ear is constantly delighted with the whistling of the blackbird in the Kirkraw and Philogar plantings. Partridges and grey game abound; the blackcock is also sometimes seen; hares are also in great plenty.

Language.—The people speak a harsh, broad language; and here, as in most places on this side of Teviot, pronounce many words ending in e like ae, as me, mae, with a long
disagreeable

disagreeable tone, and use many words improperly. The names of places are mostly of English derivation; one or two perhaps of Saxon. I am in doubt whether Philogar and Chatto are of Saxon derivation. I sometimes think Philogar is a Greek word, or partly Greek. The names of the hills are given them from their situation; as, Chatto Hill, Philogar Hill, the Steeple Hill, (this is near the kirk, and may have belonged to it as its temporality;) and Sharpław Hill, is a hill with a sharp, pointed top.

Antiquities.—It is to be remarked, that history has not recorded, nor tradition told of, a single battle fought on any spot in this parish; nor is there the vestige of any tower or fortrefs, though there are the remains of several such places of strength and safety in the neighbouring parishes of Morbattle and Eckford.

Miscellaneous Observations.—There are no waste lands in the parish. Almost the whole is fit for corn or pasture, a few spots of moss ground excepted; and these are most valuable, as affording the common fuel of the parish. Every farm has also meadow grounds belonging to it, which produce as much natural grafs as, when made into hay, is generally sufficient, one year with another, for supplying the sheep with food in the winter season when the lands are covered with snow. A good deal of the grafs is very fine; and, when well got in, makes a well-flavoured hay, and is excellent for sheep. A coarser kind is also produced, and answers fully better for black cattle. As the lands are mostly in pasture, corn of all kinds for bread, and even oats for the feeding of horses, are brought from the low part of the country, which produces much more grain than is necessary for its own consumption. There are indeed, towards the under part of the parish,

parish, in two or three of the smallest farms, some corn produced, oats, barley and pease. But it is supposed, that it would be more profitable were the lands to be all laid down in grass. The best method of laying down is, first to lime, and then sow with barley and grass seeds, viz. 1 bushel of rye grass to 6 lb. of red, or 3 lb. of white and 3 lb. of red, clover: and should there be a change in the price of sheep and wool, the lands, being broken up, would produce most excellent crops of corn.

Most part of the parish having been, either long ago, or recently, laid off in grass, there are consequently few ploughs in the parish, not above 7 or 8, and few more carts and horses than are necessary for carrying home the fuel and hay. The farmers have generally, each of them, one short cart and two long ones, and four or five horses.

Several houses have been deserted, and their inhabitants have left the parish, because the tenants, in some instances, refuse to drive them fuel.

The 63 bolls of victual stipend, mentioned in my last, are Teviotdale measure, and should be so marked. To the stipend mentioned, there is a manse and legal glebe.

There is no record kept in the parish of marriages and deaths, only of births.

There are no roads but what may be called natural roads. The lands being hilly, and dry, and gravelly, the roads are always good in winter and summer, except a few latches to be met with in some outskirts of the parish. The statute labour of the county is lately converted into money by act of Parliament, and laid on the tenants and occupiers of land at a rate, in every parish, determined by the justices of the peace, as trustees for the roads. In every parish the assessment varies, according to its situation, and is from 2s 6d to 7s on every L. 100 Scots of rent. There is little doubt but the
money

money thus raised will be properly laid out. New roads are to be made, and the old ones kept in good repair. Turnpikes are considered as of great importance to the country.

The lands are in a very few cases inclosed; the surface of the parish being mountainous, and the farms being fitted for sheep, and extensive, do not admit of being inclosed. Though a small inclosure or two near to a farm house are necessary to confine a few sheep or cattle occasionally, and this convenience every farm has. Most of the farms have not been measured, though I believe some of the Duke of Roxburgh's have. The lands are seldom let at so much per acre. The farmers calculate the value by the number of sheep the lands are known or supposed to keep.

The number of houses is as follows:

On the lands belonging to	Houses.
Boughtrig - - - -	5
Upper Chatto - - - -	6
Philogar - - - -	6
Nether Chatto - - - -	6
Mainfide, Greenhill, the Yet - -	6
Hounam Kirk, and near it - -	11
Hounam, and Hounam mill - -	8
Southcoat, and the two Granges - -	5
Sharplaw and Bearup - -	4
Whitton, Chester House, and Heatherlands	9
	<hr/> 66
	Of

Of these there are,	Houfes.
Farm houfes - - - -	14
Shepherds houfes - - - -	18
Three common joiners, each a houfe -	3
Two mafons, only one houfe - -	1
A gardener - - - -	1
A taylor - - - -	1
A miller - - - -	1
A fmith - - - -	1
One in which the Duke of Roxburgh refides for 10 or 12 days in harveft for the fake of fhooting	1
The manfe - - - -	1
The fchool and fchoolmafter's houfe -	1
23 inhabited by cottagers, fome of them working in the parifh as hired fervants, others as day labour- ers, and fome women - - - -	23
<hr/>	
Inhabited houfes,	66

N^o V. Page 54.

Parifh of Kirkmichael.

Answers to the additional queries contained in Sir John Sinclair's letter of Jan. 25. 1791, as far as refpect the parifh of Kirkmichael, Lochmaben Prefbytery. By the Rev. Dr John Burgefs.

1st. There is a public fchool for the united parifhes. It is fituated at the middle of the lower end, as being the more populous part. The falary is 200 merks Scots, or L. 11:2:2 $\frac{1}{4}$ fterling, which is paid, according to the ufual mode, one half by the heritors, and the other half by the tenants. There is an inclofure of about an acre in extent, of very light gravelly land,

land, set off for the schoolmaster, with a small garden. The schoolmaster's house and teaching room are covered with straw, being both under the same roof. About 4 years ago the teaching room became ruinous, and the dwelling house likewise fell into disrepair. The then schoolmaster, after long and fruitless application to the heritors, to get the dwelling house repaired, and the teaching room enlarged, so as to accommodate the number of scholars in the parish, applied to the presbytery for a visitation. His request was granted; but no heritor attended, nor any agent for any one of them. The presbytery empowered proper tradesmen to inspect the situation of both the dwelling house and teaching room; and instructed them to bring in estimates of the expence of repairing the dwelling house, and rebuilding, and enlarging the teaching room, so as it might conveniently hold 70, or rather more scholars, being the number that usually attend in the winter season. They did so; and the presbytery decerned for a school or teaching room of 30 feet long, and 14 feet wide, with necessary windows, a vent on each end, the floor to be laid with flags, and the roof covered with slates. All this, with benches, tables, and other needful conveniences, amounted to sixty and some odd pounds. But the Duke of Queensberry's factor, and Mr Dalzel, who was then selling off his estate of Kirkmichael, suspended the decree; and the then schoolmaster, not being able to call and discuss the suspension, left the parish, to the no small regret of those that had their children under his tuition. The consequence is, that though we have got another schoolmaster, the school-house has been suffered to remain in a ruinous condition, and he is obliged to hire a house to teach in, and has no dwelling house for himself and family, but the uncomfortable hut already described, unless he hire one at his own charge, which would be exceedingly hard.

2d. As to alehouses, &c. there is, properly speaking, but one house in the parish that deserves to be called an inn, and that is on the great road from Dumfries to Moffat. But there may be 6 or 8 other houses where whisky and beer may be had. The effect they have on the morals of the people is far from being good. Whisky, in particular, is so cheap, and in these parts so wretchedly bad, that many of the lower class, tempted by its low price and intoxicating power, often drink it to excess, and thereby injure both their health and their morals, as well as their families.

3d. The farmers here, almost to a man, work by hired servants, excepting that, in the time of peat-casting, and hay and corn harvest, they call in their cottagers, and either pay them wages by the day, or give them discount of their cottage rents to the amount of their wages.

N^o VI. Page 65.

Parish of Sprouston.

Additional communications in 1791, from the Rev. Robert Turnbull.

There are, on the Duke of Roxburgh's estate, in this parish, six tenants whose rents have very lately been greatly raised; one of them pays L.1 : 7 per acre: and there are seventeen small tenants who live in Sprouston, who have 100 acres divided among them, who pay at a medium above 30s. per acre. This took place about ten years ago. They have no lease. This shows how much landlords might gain by letting small farms, and encouraging the population of industrious tradesmen: for all of them, except three, who are employed in ploughing for the rest and driving coals for hire, are weavers, masons and wrights. There are on the
Duke.

Duke of Buccleugh's estate ten tenants; on the laird of Hadden's four; on Sir George Douglas's estate two. The introduction of turnips, which takes place in every farm in a greater or less degree according to the dryness of the soil, has contributed greatly to improve the soil, and to bring great profit to the farmer; producing, when fed off by sheep, at a mean price, L.3 per acre, and afterwards fine crops of barley, oats, and spring wheat. It is not above twenty years since this improvement has taken place.

There is a very large common in England, called Wark Common, to which the farmer at Bedan, belonging to the Duke of Roxburgh, all the tenants of Hadden, and all the tenants of the Duke of Buccleugh, have a right to pasture sheep and young cattle. About sixty years ago, this right was disputed by the tenants of the Earl of Tankerville and Sir Henry Grey of Howick; they drove away to Wark the beasts belonging to the Scotch farmers, who maintained their right by force, going in a body with their servants armed with clubs, and, after broken heads on both sides, recovered their cattle, and sent them to the common, where they have pastured unmolested to this day. I have conversed with farmers who acted as principals in this fray. This common is very large, and comprehends in it several miles. There are plain vestiges of its having been cultivated with the plough; and very fit it is for that purpose.

There is at Lempetlaw, belonging to the Duke of Buccleugh, the ruins of a place of worship, and a present burial ground. It is said that the religious of the abbey of Holyroodhouse had the direction of this chapel, and that the Duke's property in the parish once belonged to the town of Edinburgh; certain it is that the Duke pays yearly L.34 sterling to the town of Edinburgh, by whom I am paid one hundred pound Scots of stipend.

The village of Sproufton, that at present contains about 300 persons, had, about sixty-five years ago, a common called Haddenrig, to which certain indwellers, distinguished at present by the name of the Duke of Roxburgh's cottars, (much more numerous formerly, and who still pay a small rent yearly for their houses, had by immemorial usage a right to pasture sheep and cows. But the Duke's grandfather deprived them of this right, and converted the common into farms, for which the present Duke draws a very considerable rent. Many of these cottars have been deprived of their houses, and some of the houses are in ruins; and those that still remain pay a higher rent than they did when they had the right of the common.

I believe it is certain that the minister received money from these inhabitants for the tythe of lamb and wool. But the then incumbent, Mr Baxter, being aged, and having it in view to obtain the settlement for his son, my predecessor, in which he prevailed, gave no opposition. This leads me to mention one of my predecessors, Mr Ninian Hume, who was deposed soon after the rebellion in 1715 for supposed Jacobitism. He had a wonderful talent for acquiring wealth; having left at his death L. 30,000 in landed property. When minister here, he farmed land, and in particular a field contiguous to my glebe, a very valuable tract, which was inundated by the Tweed in the year 1708. On this field rested vast quantities of corn, brought down the river from remote places, which none claiming, he sold to the value of L. 50 sterling. This field, as well as a good part of my glebe, I have seen all covered with water. The last great flood has rendered perfectly useless a part of the minister's grass ground; for which he has not been able, as yet, to obtain any compensation.

There

There is an established schoolmaster in Sprouston. Of late, the heritors have augmented his salary from 100 merks to 100 pounds Scots. He has, at a medium, forty scholars, instructed in reading, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, and mensuration. His wages are very low; a shilling a quarter for reading, and eighteen pence for writing and arithmetic. There is a schoolmaster at Hadden, paid only the interest of 1000 pounds Scots, arising from 1000 merks, mortified by Lady Yester, and afterwards augmented by Sir Gilbert Elliot of Stobs, then proprietor of Hadden.

The tenants of Lempetlaw contribute to obtain a teacher of their children, being too remote from the parish school.

There are three alehouses in the parish; one at the ferry-boat, one at a toll bar, another lately in Sprouston; yet little frequented by the inhabitants, who are of a sober industrious character, yet complained of as a haunt for vagrants. Within these twenty years, the Duke of Roxburgh has built eight farmers houses, with office-houses for them, and many cottages; the Duke of Buccleugh six farm houses; the laird of Hadden three; Sir G. Douglas two.

There has been no person in the parish confined to jail or corporally punished during my incumbency, except a few women, who rescued a young man unjustly pressed, during the war carried on in defence of our colonies.

Farmers now prefer generally carrying on their husbandry by cottagers, who are obliged to furnish a female shearer to hoe turnips and to work during hay time, to hired servants, who are dieted in their houses. There are several ruinous houses in the village of Sprouston, chiefly the Duke's cottars. There is an excellent freestone quarry on the Duke of Roxburgh's estate, about half a mile from Sprouston, of great utility to the gentry in the neighbourhood, and to the town of Kelso. The cart-load of wall stones has been raised from 4d.

to

to 8d. The inhabitants of the parish are very healthy; agues are less frequent than formerly, owing, I suppose, to their eating more animal food.

There is a dispensary at Kelfo, to which the poor are recommended by the minister, the session paying to it one guinea yearly.

The schoolmaster's income, including all his perquisites, does not exceed 20*l.* sterling yearly.

There is a great store of lime stone on the Duke of Roxburgh's estate, and that of Hadden. The laird of Hadden has last year built a draw kiln for burning limestone, which will be very profitable, worth, it is supposed, 300*l.* or 400*l.* yearly. Two of the Duke of Roxburgh's tenants burn limestone for their own use. During the Duke's minority, a draw-kiln was built in the village of Sprouston; but, to the great comfort of the inhabitants, the limestone soon run out, and it continues useless, though the stones when sold would produce a considerable sum.

When I was settled here, there was not a cart belonging to a tenant. The corn was carried to the place of sale on the back of horses; the dung led to the field, and the corn to the barn-yard, in wains drawn by oxen. Now every farmer has carts. I believe my cart was the first used in the parish. For several years past I have had none, but have every part of husbandry, and the leading of coals from England, done by hire; as I could get no land to cultivate, and the keeping of two horses and a mare cost more money than the profit arising from the glebe. The raising of potatoes in the fields, which has taken place since my settlement here, and which is now very general, has been a great blessing to the inhabitants. Every farmer almost allows his cottagers to set potatoes; and many of them let some acres for that purpose at a very high rent. I let every year a part of my glebe to the inhabitants
of

of the village, and others, with that view; and always have a good crop of wheat in succession. I reckon that above 200 bolls of this root are consumed by the inhabitants of this village, in their diet, and in the feeding of swine, which they kill for their own use. Mr. Stevenson, then of Mongrenan, in the shire of Air, who about 15 years ago resided at Marlefield, to manage Mr Nisbet of Dirleton's affairs, brought from that county a species of potatoes of an excellent quality, and pleasant to eat, and very wholesome, which is now preferred to every other kind for human use: it is not very large, but very productive, and lies near the surface in a round form. Without this valuable root, many families of industrious labourers, even at the advanced price of their wages, a shilling a day, from the spring time, and eightpence or tenpence when the days shorten, must have been in pinched circumstances, when corn, butter and cheese fell so dear.

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Parish of Ayr.

Some particulars contained in a second account of the Parish of Ayr received from Dr. M'Gill in 1791, just after the first had been printed off, are here inserted.

The Charter of the Burgh.—The Erection Charter of the burgh of Ayr, was granted by William the Lyon; and is dated at Lanark the 21st day of May, but no mention of the year; an omission not unusual in those times. It must have been between 1165 and 1214, probably about 1182. However, the Charter contains a grant of all the lands now comprehended in the parish of Ayr.

Extent

Extent and Form of the Parish.—The present parish of Ayr was formerly divided into two, Ayr and Alloway. Ayr, including the town and Borrowfield, was a collegiate charge from the Reformation. The other half made the separate parish of Alloway; which, having but a small stipend, was, about the beginning of the present century, annexed to Ayr, and its stipend divided between the two collegiate ministers of that parish. The ruins of Alloway church are yet to be seen, near the old bridge of Doon.

The river Doon, near its mouth, has, at some former period since the division of the county into parishes, altered its channel. For, besides the marks of its old course, there is now on its north side a farm of some extent, named Coningpark, which must have been formerly on the south side, in the parish of Maybole, to which it still belongs. It may not be easy to account for this alteration, whether it was the pure work of nature, or assisted by art. But it is certain the river now empties itself into the sea in a much straighter course than by its former channel.

Within a quarter of a mile of its mouth, a paper mill has been lately erected, on the south side, by David Earl of Cassillis; and, a little above that, a fine stone bridge, of one arch, was thrown over by his brother Thomas the 9th Earl. This bridge is little more than half a mile below the old one; and by them are opened two different ways of communication between Carrick and Kyle.

Privileges, and Administration of the Burgh.—The town of Ayr is the seat of the presbytery of that name; and enjoys, with the town of Irvine, every sixth vice of the meeting of the synod of Glasgow and Ayr, which convenes twice at Glasgow for once that it does at either of the other two towns. Ayr is likewise the head burgh of the county; and has
a fifth

a fifth vote with Campbelton, Inveraray, Rothsay and Irvine, for a member of Parliament. In shape, it has something of the form of a crescent, but one of the horns much longer than the other.

The administration of this burgh is vested in a provost, two bailies, a dean of guild, and treasurer, with twelve counsellors, two of whom are from the incorporated trades. Their election is conducted as follows. Upon the Wednesday, before the Friday preceding Michaelmas day, the magistrates and council (seventeen in number) meet in the court-hall, and elect, first, one of their number, who is denominated old counsellor, then six new counsellors for the ensuing year, four of whom are merchants, and two trades: these, with the magistrates, and other members of council, meet in the same place the Friday following, and make the leets for provost, bailies, dean of guild, and treasurer; and upon the first Monday after Michaelmas day, these twenty-three members, with three deacons, (termed extraordinary deacons,) from three different incorporations, meet as above, and elect the provost, bailies, dean of guild, and treasurer, and as many members from the old council as, with the office-bearers and new counsellors, make seventeen, which form the magistrates and council for the ensuing year. The magistrates may be re-elected many years without intermission, the provost excepted, who must be changed at least every two years; and the magistrates, &c. remain a year in the council after going out of office.

After the election of the magistrates and council, each of the nine incorporated trades, viz. the smiths, taylors, weavers, dyers, squaremen, shoemakers, skinners, coopers, and fleshers, elect a deacon; who, with the late deacon of each incorporation, meet on the Saturday following, and elect a conveyer, who must be one of that number. These form what is de-

nominated the convener's board, of which he is president; but he is neither a magistrate nor member of council from office: but he, or any deacon, may be elected a counsellor, except the deacons of the fleshers and coopers, who can neither be chosen counsellors, nor vote for the magistrates.

The revenues of this burgh vary according to circumstances; they amount, at an average, to L. 600 sterling per annum.

The tolbooth, with a spire 138 feet in height, stands in the middle of the street called the Sandgate, and very much incommodes those who pass that way, or live in its neighbourhood. The hall adjoining thereto, where the justiciary and sheriff courts are held, is tolerably large and commodious. The town-hall, or assembly room, situated near the Cross, though not large, is very neat and convenient for an ordinary company. The meal market stands near the middle of the town, but is a great deformity to that part of the street. The flesh market is very well situated on the edge of the river; and is at all times well provided with as good meat as is any where to be met with.

Situation and Productions of the Parish.—For about a mile and a half south of the town, and the same distance east from the sea, a flat sandy soil, with very little rising, naturally yielding a short sweet grass throughout the year, extends about a furlong or two in breadth along the shore. Beyond that, the plain is generally kept in tillage, and, with the help of manure from the town, and sea-weed from the shore, produces good wheat, rye, oats, barley, beans, pease, potatoes, &c. At the east side of the plain, nearly a mile and a half from the shore, the country begins to rise, in several places, rather abruptly at first, but afterwards more gently for about two miles, and falls again at the eastern extremity, which

which is between five and six miles from the shore, or western extremity: so that the greatest length of the parish, from E. to W. is little less than 6 miles; its greatest breadth, from N. to S. is between 3 and 4 miles; and from thence it lessens gradually towards the west, till it comes to the shore, to one mile and a half. The soil is nowhere rocky, but for the most part deep and wet, and not very fertile naturally; yet every part of it is improveable, and generally much improved of late years, both in respect of crops and elegant plantations. There are no lime quarries in the parish; but they have lately found, in some places of the higher grounds, a kind of blue marle, which has been used with success. There is much limestone daily imported from Ireland, in the coal vessels.

Agriculture—has made great progress here, as well as in other parts of the country, within the last thirty or forty years. The lands of Alloway, being the full half of the present country parish of Ayr, were formerly possessed by tenants at the yearly rent of 1s. 3d. per acre, which they were not able to pay, and often became bankrupts and beggars. In the year 1755, these lands were sold by the town to private proprietors, who continue to pay the antient rent as a perpetual feu-duty, and the sale produced a capital of L.7200. Since that period, the lands have been brought into good cultivation, and are now finely inclosed, and adorned with plantations and country seats; Rossell, Doonholm, Greenfield, Mount-Charles, Bellisle, &c.

The lands of Borrowfield, the other division of the country parish of Ayr, seem to have been alienated from the town at some far distant period, when money was extremely scarce; for though they still pay a feu-duty, it is a mere trifle, compared with what is paid for the Alloway lands.

There is scarce any part of the parish which is not arable, and most of it actually bears crops, chiefly of oats; yet it is by no means able to supply itself, including the town, with provisions. Large supplies, both of vegetable and animal food, are brought in from all the neighbouring country, from Galloway, and often from Ireland. Clover and ryegrass are frequently sown with great profit.

The town has still in its possession a small stripe of pasture ground along the sands, for about a quarter of a mile to the S.; as also, at some distance to the S. E. a common, of between 80 and 90 acres, for feeding milk cows, and free to every burghers. The greatest part of the common to the S. a large circular field, has been of late inclosed with a good stone wall, which has immediately within it a fine race course. The field has likewise been cleared of whins or furze.

The whole land rent of the parish amounts at present to about L. 3700 sterling; and the extent is said to be something more than 5000 acres.

Though the climate is healthy, many examples of that extraordinary longevity, which are reported from other places, cannot be produced. Several persons among us are above 80 years, and we have four at present on the borders of 90. It is said that, in the year 1745, one of the inhabitants, at the age of 114, walked from Ayr to Leith, and there took shipping for London, where he died, after a stay of only two months. The town stands on a dry sandy soil, and has fields adjoining, than which, none can be fitter for walking, or for the diversions of racing, golfing, &c. Every one has easy access to the turf, covered at all seasons with a beautiful verdure, and in Spring and Summer adorned with wild daisies and other flowers.

The sea-shore, is flat and shallow; and the navigation of the river, where the tide never flows above 12 feet, is
subject

subject to the inconvenience of a bar, which at times, especially by the violence of the N. W. winds, is thrown up almost quite across the mouth of it. This, however, is in part cleared away, when the river happens to be greatly swelled by rains; sometimes it is necessary to dredge it; and the inconvenience is likely to be further remedied, by a good stone wall, built on both sides of the river, which is now carrying on, and more than half finished. Formerly the south side of the river, beyond the Quay, was fenced by large triangular wooden boxes, filled with stones. But these were found to be very expensive, by the frequent repairs which they wanted; and therefore, an attempt has of late been made, and is already far on in the execution, to procure the same convenience, by building, instead of wooden boxes, a wall of the same height, but entirely of stone, perpendicular on the side next the river, and sloping off on the other side. This, it is hoped, will answer the same end, and be more durable. In the course of last year, there were built at some distance from one another, but uniting in a line when viewed from the bar, two reflecting light houses, to direct ships into the entrance of the river. From the mouth of the river southward, nearly in a direct line, and about a quarter of a mile distant from one another, there lie four different heaps of large stones; of which three are always to be seen at about half tide, but the fourth or northmost one, only at some very low ebbs. These stones, being many of them of great weight, and all of them loose and unconnected, are lifted by grappling irons fixed to a crane, and conveyed on pontoons, and are found to be useful materials for fencing the river, on both sides, by the walls formerly mentioned.

Fisheries.—Formerly there were great herring fishings at this place, much to its emolument; but nothing of that kind
has

has appeared for these 28 years last past. The coast affords plenty of salmon, at least for home consumption every year, and a great variety of excellent white fish, cod, ling, haddocks, whittings, skate, flounders, &c. No shell fish, except a few crabs and lobsters. Cod are in season from the end of June to the end of February; ling and haddocks are the same. Skate good at all seasons, when they can be got. The white fishing is mostly carried on by a society of people from Aberdeenshire, who pursue their business with great diligence and success; but they begin to complain of a scarcity of fish on this coast, such as has sometime ago taken place on the east coast of Scotland. They used to sell their fish for a penny per pound, 'till a man came from Edinburgh of late, and offered them 1½d. for all that they could spare. They likewise send large supplies to Kilmarnock, Irvine, Paisley, and Glasgow. They catch their fish by long lines with hooks and baits fixed on them, at proper distances, and sunk to the bottom with weights at either end. The salmon fishing is managed by people of this country; and there are seven cobbles or fishing boats, usually employed with four men for each boat, three for the river of Ayr, and four for the Doon, but more or fewer as occasion requires. They are permitted to use six for each of the rivers, if needful. The salmon fishing at the mouth of Doon, which belongs to the Earl of Cassilis, pays a rent of L. 90 per annum, and there is a cruive about six miles up the river, which pays L. 13 more. The fishing of Ayr river formerly belonged to Sir Thomas Wallace of Craigie, but is now the property of the society of writers in Ayr; and is rented at L. 85, together with the payment of some public burdens, as L. 1 to the town for each coble employed in the fishing, and L. 2 in all to the minister of Monkton. A few years ago, the price of salmon, in Summer and Autumn, came as low as 1½d. per pound; but now, it is never

never under 2 ¹/₂ d.; sometimes much more, especially the first in the season.

Tides, Landmarks, &c.—Sea-weed of the common kind is thrown in by the winter storms, in great quantities, and much used for manuring lands. The tides are very equal; and no remarkable currents nigh the coast, nor rocks, except those already mentioned. As for landmarks, the rock of Ailfa, rising like a lofty broad shouldered cone, ten miles from the nearest coast, serves admirably for the entrance of the Frith of Clyde; and to the south of it, in case of a storm, there is a safe retreat in Lochryan; on the north, in Lamlassh, an excellent harbour, in Arran. The Brown Carrick hill, 3 miles to the south of us, presents a noble ridge, of nearly the same length from east to west; towards the east it bears its highest point, and from thence slopes gently down to the sea. But on its north side, it sends out, beyond a deep narrow valley, a bold promontory or two, contiguous to one another, called the Bowerhill, or, Heads of Ayr; and another not so high, about half a mile farther east, called Greenan, with the remains of an old castle, on the very brink of the precipice. About 8 miles north from these promontories, is the small flat rocky island, called Lady Isle, inhabited only by a few rabbits, but supposed to afford good anchoring ground on its east side, and therefore has of late years had two pillars erected on it, for directing ships to find their proper station there. Nothing, however, but extreme necessity, can induce any ship to attempt anchoring there, be the ground ever so good, because there is no shelter above.

All these landmarks, with the steeple of the town, the tower of St. John's in the citadel, and a large sugar house near the shore, furnish good direction towards the harbour of Ayr.

Stones,

Stones, Minerals, &c.—Of freestone we have two quarries, now working, hard by the town; but they lie deep, and require a good deal of labour to bare them. Two or three great coal works, also, are carried on in our neighbourhood, but all by the same company; one in the parish of St. Quivox, on the Blackhouse estate, now belonging to a company in Edinburgh; another, to the community of Newton-upon-Ayr; and the third, to a private family. There is little doubt but that coal might be found in our parish. The exportation of coal to Ireland is the principal branch of trade carried on at this port.

Schools.—One might form a high idea of the population of the parish from the number of schools that are in it. Two English masters appointed with salaries of L. 15 each, have each of them from 38 to 40 scholars throughout the year, at the rate of 3s. per quarter for every scholar. Besides these, there are three other English schools, without salaries, and with the same wages, and almost as numerous as the former.

For the Latin there is a master, with a salary of L. 20 per annum, and 5s. a quarter for each scholar; and the number of his scholars is generally about 40. His highest class he commonly instructs in the rudiments of the Greek language. The same salary is allotted to a master who teaches arithmetic, book-keeping, navigation, geometry, &c. Finally, there are two writing masters; of whom one has a salary of ten pounds per annum. French is taught privately by several hands.

Religious Instruction.—Of religious instructors, there are, besides two ministers on the establishment, who do duty in one place of worship, one episcopal, two Moravians, (a sect
which

which first appeared here not much more than 20 years ago,) and very lately one Methodist. None of their meetings are, as yet, considerable. Of professed Seceders, (Antiburghers,) who attend a place of worship at the head of Wallace Street, in the parish of St. Quivox, there may be 50 or 60 souls; of Episcopalians, somewhat fewer; Roman Catholics, none.

Physic.—For our bodily health, we have one physician and three surgeons, who all, except the first, act as apothecaries.

Law.—Ayr, being the head burgh of the county, has much law in it; and the number of attorneys, who attend the sheriff and town courts, has greatly increased of late years, as well as the causes. The former are about 16. Of the latter there are generally pending upwards of 200. The writer of this article heard the sheriff-substitute affirm, that during the last summer session he had advised no less than 300 causes.

Houses.—In the town alone it is computed that full 60 new houses have been built within these ten years, and many also in the country part of the parish. The latter have been all built on new ground, and several of the former. But some old houses of the town have been pulled down, to make way for new ones. It is rare that any of them have been left untenanted, but two or three are in that situation this year. The ordinary rent of houses is from L.20 or L.25 to L. 1 per annum. The number of licensed alehouses in the parish, including inns and taverns, is at present 48: and it cannot be supposed that so many of them have a salutary effect on the morals of the people. Some think it is hurtful

that good ale is, by public assessments, rendered so dear; and bad whisky so cheap.

Church.—The present church of Ayr was built in 1654; and might contain, if well filled, near 2000 sitters. The old church, named St. John Baptist's, of which only the tower or steeple now remains, stood on the other side of the town, next the sea, in what is called the Citadel. But Oliver Cromwell, judging it proper to build a fortress at this place, for keeping the west country in awe, took possession of St. John's Church for an armoury, and, by way of compensation, gave the town 1000 merks English for building another.—The walls of the Citadel inclose about 10 or 12 acres of ground, and were originally surrounded with a wet ditch, which had a drawbridge over it on the side next the town. It was a very regular fortress, with four bastions, three wells, a magazine, a Sallyport, &c.; but built at so great expence, that the Protector, when he had the account laid before him, asked if it was built of silver. For it seems no stone quarries near Ayr were then known; and the stones employed in building the Citadel were all brought from some distance by sea, and partly, it is said, from the castle of Ardrossan, belonging to the Earl of Eglinton. After the Restoration, therefore, the Earl asked, and obtained "a grant of the Citadel of Ayr from the Crown, to indemnify him, in part, for the losses he alledged he had sustained during the Usurpation. At present, it belongs to the Earl of Cassillis, has a large kiln and brewery in it, and pays L. 50 sterling of rent per annum.

Within the wall of this fortress, as tradition bears, and at the highest mount of it, stood the castle of Ayr, which is mentioned in old histories. And in the church of St. John's, it is recorded, that the Parliament of Scotland met to confirm

Robert

Robert Bruce's title to the throne, when many of the nobility could hardly sign their initials.

Stipends.—The stipends of the two colleague ministers of Ayr were, when first modified anno 1638, of equal value, or nearly so; the first being payable, in bear and oat-meal, out of the teinds; and the other all in money, from the rent of certain milns, granted to the town for that particular purpose, by Queen Mary, 1567. But the progress of agriculture and commerce, and the consequent decrease of the value of money, have long ago made a great difference between them; so that the first, at an average, may now be reckoned worth L. 130 sterling per annum, besides a glebe; while the other does not exceed L. 75 sterling per annum. Whatever the second minister enjoys above this, is purely a voluntary gratuity from the town; and the gratuities allowed at different times since the year 1761 amount now to L. 37 sterling per annum. The patronage of the first charge belongs to the crown; of the second, to the town council, and kirk session, jointly. Neither of the ministers have manfes; but the town, about seven or eight years ago, granted to each of the present incumbents L. 12:12 sterling per annum, on that score.

Provision for the Poor.—For the support of the poor we have an hospital, which was built by subscription about the year 1756, which is sufficient to accommodate 60 persons, old and young. But many of the poor chuse rather to receive a small weekly aliment, and to live in houses of their own. The funds out of which they are supplied, are the weekly collections, which may amount to L. 120 sterling per annum; a contribution of about L. 50 sterling, from different corporations in the town, and a yearly stent or poors rate of

L. 100. Besides all this, there is an annual distribution, amounting to L. 20 sterling or upwards, made to reduced house-keepers, by the magistrates and ministers, about the middle of winter, from a fund disposed for that purpose, by Alderman Smith in Londonderry, who was a native of Ayr.

Our poor are, upon the whole, well provided for, a circumstance perfectly understood by the poor of neighbouring parishes, who therefore flock in upon us from every side, but do not complain of want, till they have made out a three years residence in the place, after which they are reckoned its own proper poor. We are likewise oppressed with unfortunate women, who bring forth numbers of illegitimate children, whom they cannot find fathers to own, (these being generally sailors or soldiers, previously gone away to distant places,) and who must therefore be either maintained by the public, or suffered to starve. We stand much in need of a Bridewell, for restraining these and other disorders, and the timely correction of smaller crimes would, in many cases, prevent greater ones.

In Ayr gaol, during the year 1790, there were 70 debtors, 73 criminals, and 40 vagrants.

Fuel.—The common fuel of this place and neighbourhood is coal; and the price some years ago, was 1s. 6d. per cart, which is at the rate of 6s. per ton; afterwards it rose to 1s. 8d. a cart; and this last Winter it came to 2s. at the rate of 8s. per ton, where it now remains. The demand of late for exportation is so great, that oft times scarce any are left for home use.

Commerce and Manufactures.—The most considerable branch of trade, from the port of Ayr, is, as before mentioned, the exportation of coals to Ireland. The quantity exported to that

that kingdom in the year 1790, was 8418 chalders, or 12627 tons. This trade is chiefly carried on by vessels belonging to Ireland, which import a considerable quantity of limestone, of an excellent quality. The lime when burned and slacked, is sold at 7d. per boll. The articles imported from Ireland, are chiefly grain, linen cloth, and hides. Of imports from other countries, wood and iron from Prussia and the Baltic are the principal articles.

The vessels belonging to the port are 33 in number, as follows :

Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
18 employed in the year 1790 in foreign trade,	1894 $\frac{3}{4}$	134
8 ————— in the coast trade,	332 $\frac{3}{4}$	29
7 ————— in the fishery,	266 $\frac{1}{2}$	27
<hr/> 33	<hr/> 2494	<hr/> 190

Manufactories are not carried on to any great extent in this parish. The principal are, those of leather, and of soft and hard soap. Of the former, the average number of hides tanned yearly for these last four years is 3000, and from 5 to 600 dozen of calf skins. There are three soap manufactories, but the quantity made cannot be well ascertained. Of retail shops in the town of Ayr, besides a few of inconsiderable note, there may at present be reckoned thirty-six. Twenty-one of which are furnished with articles of grocery, four with hard ware, two with saddlery, and nine with broad cloth and haberdashery. A large sugar house, built within these last 20 years, did not continue long employed, and lies waste and useless, as it has done for several years past. Our weavers of all kinds, have most of their employment from Glasgow and Paisley. But of late there are many female children happily engaged in the tambouring business, which they have from the cotton manufactories.

Banking

Banking Companies.—The first banking company established here, was that of John M'Adam and Company, which consisted of 12 members, who carried on that business from 1760 to 1770, with advantage to themselves, and benefit to the country. The next was the famous and well known bank of Douglas, Heron and Company, which commenced in 1769, and continued 'till about the end of 1772. Upon the dissolution of that concern, another company was formed, under the firm of Hunters' and Company, which with a branch of the Bank of Scotland, now carries on all that business in this place.

Fairs, &c.—There are two market days in the town every week, Tuesday and Friday; this last is the principal one. And we have four fairs in the year, one every quarter. At the beginning of each fair, coarse raw woolen cloths, manufactured in this, and the neighbouring parishes, are sold to merchants from Glasgow, Paisley, &c. to the amount of L. 4000 or upwards yearly, at the four fairs. At three of them, when the cloth market is over, is a large horse market, chiefly of Irish horses.

In a sea-port town, many as usual, addict themselves to a sea faring life, also some enlist in the army, and many young men go abroad to push their fortunes. But no emigrations took place, even when they were most in fashion.

The people in general are humane and charitable, live comfortably, and are contented with their circumstances. Their morals in many instances have suffered by the practice of smuggling, which is not yet entirely suppressed in this place; and it is not to be doubted but their condition might be ameliorated, chiefly by an increase of true piety, and virtue, and honest industry among them.

Learned

Learned Men.—History has recorded but few men, natives of this place, who were distinguished in the republic of letters. Only in the 9th century it produced the famous John Scot, surnamed *Erigena*, or born in Ayr, to distinguish him from a former born at Melrose, and from another born in the 13th century in the town of Dunse. *Erigena* is said to have excelled all the men of his time, in the knowledge of languages and philosophy, as also in acuteness of judgment, readiness of wit, and fluency of elocution. He studied at Athens, lived in great favour with Charles the Bald of France, and wrote many books upon different points of philosophy and theology, of which some remain at this day. To him may be added Andrew Ramsay, better known by the name of *Chevalier Ramsay*, the author of *Cyrus's Travels*, and other works. And lastly, Robert Burns, the poet, born in the country part of the parish of Ayr, and by his genius at least, as much distinguished as either of the former authors.

No. 12. Page 101.

Parish of Coylton.

Additional information from Mr. Shaw, received in 1791, after the first account was printed off.

There is plenty of freestone in quarries; and a considerable part of the parish has coal in it; two coalworks at present belonging to Mr. Steel of Gadgirth, and a third belonging to Mr. Vint, who has a small part of that estate. This last has the prospect of having a considerable quantity of iron ore, said to be of the best quality; but as the discovery was lately made, I cannot pretend to give any precise account of
its

its importance. Every family uses coal; and are supplied from a coal pit belonging to Mr. Smith of Drongan, in Stair parish, at 3½d. per creel, twelve of which make a ton; or from Mr. Vint. There are coals sent to Ayr from each of these works for the inhabitants, and for exportation to Ireland. A lime quarry has been found in this parish, excellent in its quality, and promises to be very great in quantity; the property of Mr. Crawford of Auchinames, in his lands of Drumsfure. This, if it answer, as it is hoped it will, must be of great consequence to the proprietor, and to this whole parish and neighbourhood, as formerly lime was brought at a great expence, and of course in small quantities. There is abundance of coal to burn the lime; and the soil of this parish needs it, as a considerable part of it is a clay surface, sufficiently deep upon a till bottom; but this soil answers extremely well with lime; and I have the pleasure to inform you, that the farmers in general, are extremely sober and industrious. It appears from our register, that during the last eight years, the births were 124, marriages 55, burials 129. The climate is good, the inhabitants in general healthy, and yet you will observe the burials exceed the births, which is owing to a great many families in the neighbouring parishes having burial places in Coylton church-yard.—No Seceders, Episcopalians, or Roman catholics.—Heritors 9; 2 residing in the parish.—Farmers 47; some pay 130, 120, 60, 50l. sterling, and several from 40 to 20l. sterling.—No murders or suicides; nor any banished from the parish. The produce of grain; viz. barley, bear, oats, pease, beans, potatoes, and some wheat, do more than supply the inhabitants; the surplus sold in Ayr and the neighbouring towns and villages, particularly at Catrine in Sorn parish, where there is a cotton mill; and at Muirkirk, where there are iron, and coal-tar manufactories. There is only one sheep farm in the parish. Some are purchased by
the

the gentlemen and farmers from Carrick, the southern district of this county, in oats, and fallowed the following season for their own use or the market. Black cattle are purchased at the same season from Crieff or Down fairs, or from Galloway, and fattened the following Summer, or, if young cattle, sold for the English market. The church was repaired lately, and the manse was built about 40 years ago, but an addition made to it, and the offices, some years ago. All these are in exceeding good order and commodious. The crown is patron. Mr. David Shaw minister, ordained in June 1749, married; has three sons, and two daughters alive. The schoolmaster's salary 100 merks; wages 1s. 6d. for reading, 2s. for reading and writing, and 2s. 6d. for reading, writing, and arithmetic, per quarter. The stipend is 40 bolls bear, $7\frac{1}{2}$ winchester bushels per boll; 40 bolls meal; 500 merks of money; and 100 merks for communion elements. The price of provisions as in the market of Ayr. There are 3 ale-houses in the parish, kept by sober persons. The people in general extremely sober; though it were much to be wished they would rather accustom themselves to beer, either small or strong, than to punch, which is the prevailing drink even among the farmers. Some of the large farmers have cottagers, in general house-servants. Wages, &c. of each about 14l. I mean for men servants, and women 3l. per annum.

No. XVII. Page 126.

Parish of Linton.

Rev. Cha. Findlater.

I beg leave to correct some mistakes in my report of Linton parish.

The average price of superannuated breeding ewes from
Vol. XXI. G the

the hill farms should have been stated at 8s. a head; that of holding stock, purchased by an incoming tenant from the one who leaves the farm, at from 13s. to 15s. a head.

A decision too, in regard to the game laws, said in the first report to have been pronounced by the sheriff, is found to have been only pronounced by the justices.

No. XVIII. Page 148.

Parish of Newlands.

Rev. Cha. Findlater.

The schoolhouse, as well as the manse and church, are now become very uncentral, owing to the eastern extremity of the parish, which originally had no inhabitants, having become very populous; of consequence the number attending the established school is smaller than might otherwise be expected; the number may be 30 at an average.

The whole emoluments of the schoolmaster, arising from his salary (of L. 100 Scots), and dues for testimonials, 6d. each, extracts from the register, 6d. each, insertion of births in the register, 8d. each; fee as session-clerk, 10s. yearly; dues for teaching, viz. English at 1s. 2d. per quarter; reading and writing 1s. 6d. per do.; arithmetic 2s. per do.;—may amount to L. 13 or L. 14 annually; he has besides, a free house, and a trifling garden.

In the more remote parts of the parish, farmers families join and hire a lad to teach, at a very cheap rate.

The tax imposed on registrations of births, burials, and marriages, might be of use to gain political information. It has however (as to the mode of collecting it) been exacted without paying proper attention to the state in which registers were kept; and it also proves oppressive to the school-
masters

masters who collect it. *1mo.* The act contains no clause obliging registers to be kept; and of consequence, where the schoolmaster has no dues for registration himself, in all such cases he keeps no register at all; this is the case as to burials and marriages. The schoolmaster has a fee for registering births and baptisms; he therefore keeps that register. He has a fee also for granting an extract of proclamation of banns; he therefore keeps a register of proclamations: but a proclamation is not a marriage, and the act extends only to registers of marriages. The schoolmaster is indeed authorised by the act to compel the parishioners to register births, burials and marriages, under penalty of a heavy fine; but as he has no interest to volunteer himself in collecting taxes where he has no fee for registering, he does not use his power. For, *2do*, the allowance from government to schoolmasters for collecting is so trifling, that in the bulk of country parishes, it will not indemnify the collector. He is obliged to take out a licence from the stamp-office, authorising him to keep a register, which costs him a crown. He is also obliged, so often as required by the collector of the stamp-duties, to post away to the county town where the office is kept, at the distance sometimes of 20 miles, to account to the collector for the duties he has raised, while his whole emoluments are only an allowance of 2s. in the pound upon what he has collected.

Supposing the act peremptorily enforced the keeping of registers, so that the poor schoolmaster could demand all the duties, without subjecting himself to the odium of volunteering himself in the business, the average of threepences collected on all, would not perhaps exceed 10s. or 12s. yearly in the generality of country parishes; of course the whole allowance to the schoolmaster for his original advance for his

licence, and the expence of travelling to the office to account to the collector once or twice a year, would only be 1s. yearly.

The poor schoolmasters are meantime perpetually harraffed with letters from the stamp-collectors threatening them with prosecutions; if they omit keeping all registers, they have allowance from the act to do so; but as they have all a fee of 8d. or 1s. for every birth and baptism, which is a considerable addition to their small income, for fear of losing that, they in general subject themselves to the inconveniences before specified, and keep a register of births and baptisms, and no other.—This is a grievance which certainly requires parliamentary redress.

Noblehouse is the only inn in the parish; there are besides two alehouses, and two grocery shops, which sell drams.

There is a quarry of white freestone in Lamancha grounds. Excepting in the contiguous parishes of Linton and Newlands, there is no freestone in the county of Tweeddale, the stone being all mostly whin or slate.

In the lands of Lamancha there is an endless variety of clays; there is in particular a very thick bed of fire clay like the Stourbridge clay; also various beds of marle; there is likewise great abundance of alum slate.

In these lands there is also a vein of stone in a hill, supposed to be a native loadstone.

In these lands of Lamancha there are also in the hills nine different veins of iron ore, of considerable thickness, the same as the Lancashire ores; one of these veins is entirely grain ore; the rest are mixed with grain ore. Manganese is also found by itself and mixed with the iron ores. These ores are of easy access; the entry from the side of the hill; plenty of level, and no need of pits. These veins of ore extend through the hills belonging to the lands of Magbiehill.

No

No fair trial has yet been made of them. Ironstone is also found in the lands of Lamancha.

There is coal in the lands of Whim, Lamancha, and Magbiehill. The only vein wrought is the one nearest the surface; and no attempts have been made to find any other lying deeper.

There is also on these lands plenty of turf and peat.

The surface-soil of the hills, where the veins of ore are found, is mostly limestone gravel. The Countess Dowager of Dundonald has had the fine wooled Lincolnshire sheep pasturing on these hills and the low grounds for 20 years by-past, and she imagines they might suit the Shetland breed.

There is at Lamancha a chalybeate spring, vulgarly called the *Verture* (i. e. the *Virtue*) *Well*; seemingly containing a great quantity of fixed air, which holds the iron in solution.

The ochre work at Lamancha is now manufacturing paint for sale; it is to be had either in powder, or mixed with boiled lintseed oil, in quantities not less than $\frac{1}{4}$ cwt. The ochre is by different processes calcined, ground, and levigated by trituration with water.

The powder thus produced is the paint, known by country wrights under the name of *Spanish brown*; it is a remarkably subtile impalpable powder, of a deep dark red colour. What is sold mixed with oil is said to dry very quickly.

The paint in powder is almost entirely attracted by the magnet, which it seems is the test of excellence.

N^o XXVII. Page 211.*Parish of Gramond.*

The account of this parish, by Mr. Wood, mentioned in the note at page 211, being now published, it appears that the population of this district has considerably increased; the following being the number of inhabitants in 1792, as found by a careful enumeration.

Individuals	-	-	1485
Males	-	-	734
Females	-	-	751
Under 10	-	-	359
From 10 to 20	-	-	298
From 20 to 50	-	-	598
From 50 to 70	-	-	191
From 70 to 90	-	-	39
Married couples	-	-	247
Widowers	-	-	21
Widows	-	-	27
Bachelors and unmarried women housekeepers		}	35
Families	-	-	330

No. XXVIII.

N^o XXVIII. Page 227.*Parish of Dalmeny.*

SIR,

I have with much pleasure read your Statistical History of Scotland; yet at the same time regret the mistake concerning the Moubray family of Barnbogle, it being represented "that a peasant in the parish of Dalmeny is the only descendant of that ancient family."

As I understand another edition is soon to be published, I think it therefore due to you, Sir, as well as to my Son, to request you will do me the favour to refer to Mr. Nisbet's System of Heraldry, 2d volume, Appendix, page 22, "Historical and Critical Remark," page 12, which will clearly and fully satisfy you with every particular; having furnished himself with a sight of our documents; and indisputably proves, that Robert, my eldest Son, an officer in the 80th regiment, now serving in the East Indies, and in possession of the old paternal estate of Colcairney, alias Cockairney, is progressively in an accurate line the lineal descendant of the Barnbogle family.

I beg leave to apologize for giving you this trouble; but trust you will receive equal pleasure with myself, in doing justice to a family, who, upwards of 500 years ago, were distinguished for their valour and adherence to the Crown.

I have the honour to be, SIR,

Your obedient

and humble Servant,

ARABELLA MOUBRAY.

COCKAIRNEY,
near Aberdour, Fifeshire,
December 17th, 1796.

To Sir John Sinclair, Bart. M. P.

The

The correctness of the expression respecting the Moubray family, in the Statistical Account of Dalmeñy, p. 239, ‘ Sir Robert Moubray sold it, (Barnbogle,) whose representative, it is said, is still in the parish, but reduced to the condition of a common servant,’ will, however, be sufficiently apparent from the following statement. Sir John Moubray of Barnbogle, the last lineal descendant of that great family, having only one daughter, and no sons, bestowed, in 1511, the estate of Cockairney upon his father’s brother, William Moubray; and the descendants of this William of Cockairney are consequently the male representatives of the old family. But Sir John’s daughter and heiress, Barbara Moubray, inherited Barnbogle; her husband Robert Barton, and their children, assumed the name of Moubray: their great grandson and lineal descendant, Sir Robert Moubray, sold Barnbogle, the extensive estate of his ancestors, in 1615; and the representative of this Sir Robert was the person alluded to as reduced to the condition of a common servant. The writer of this note cannot here omit expressing his acknowledgements to the Right Honourable the Earl of Roseberry, the present proprietor of that noble barony, by whose liberality, kindness and attention, he was indulged with the free perusal of the charters and other writs of Barnbogle, of which those respecting the Moubray family extend from 1346 to 1615.

I. W.

Nº XXIX. Page 242.

Parish of Sorbie.

Rev. Isaac Davidson.

On reading your account of Sorbie, I felt uneasy on seeing Lady Galloway’s shrubbery walks neglected, and that much of what was said about the harbour of Earliestown

was suppressed. I account for both these, by supposing that the things in question do not appear the same to you as they do to me. You make me speak a softer language respecting the coal laws than I intended. I used language which expressed the feelings and sentiments of the people in my neighbourhood.

In page 245 my meaning has not been discerned, and, I fear, through my want of perspicuity. You say, ‘By experiment, it appears that plants which were *pruned* advanced at the rate of four years in six before those which ‘were not *pruned*.’ My remark, if I remember well, is confined to *ashes*, or to *ashes and oaks*; and instead of *pruning*, I meant *cutting them over*, above the ground. As it stands in your page, pruning applies to firs, as well as *ashes*: but, by cutting over a fir, it is commonly, if not always, ruined. I beg that you will be so good as to read that part of my report, and to compare it with that which is printed. It is of consequence for the public to know the advantages which arise from *cutting over* oaks and *ashes*. By cutting over, I mean the same as taking off all that part of the young tree which is above the ground.

No. XXXIV. Page 332.

Parish of Biggar.

The population of the town of Biggar is 589, and not 389, as stated by an error of the press.

Nº XLVI. Page 441.

Parish of Lunan.

Rev. John Gowans.

The following mistakes occurred in the account of Lunan. Page 441. l. 9. After the word Forfar, add, ‘from which ‘circumstance the name is supposed to be derived;’ and for *Laonon* read *Lônnon*.

P. 443. l. 1. for *Arlukie* read *Arbikie*.

P. 444. last line, *for few read five.*

445. last line, *for 88 read 80.*

448. l. 4 from the foot, *for turf read furze or winins.*

N^o XLIX. Page 465.

Parish of Oathlaw.

Rev. Tho. Barker.

To satisfy you concerning the number of our paupers—that we have no more than two receiving charity, is a certain fact, both old women, and widows; and what is still more, one of them does not properly belong to us, but to a neighbouring parish, and came to reside with a daughter married to a labouring man here. A few years ago, I hinted to Mr. Howlett a reason why we have so few paupers here, viz. We have neither brewers, nor beggars, nor bastards, nor bankrupts; but a sober, frugal and laborious people; no idlers nor drunkards; every family brew their own beer; no sectaries. We have indeed a family or two with a number of young children that we occasionally relieve with small sums; and it is sometimes with difficulty that they will be prevailed upon to accept of them, but no longer than they can do for themselves, which is often at a very early age.

No. LIII. Page 503.

Parish of Meigle.

Rev. James Playfair.

There is one mistake I committed in my account of the parish of Meigle; and which, for an obvious reason, I am desirous of having corrected. Lumphanan is said to lie in the Mearns, whereas it is in Aberdeenshire. Two typographical errors, in line 22 and 28 of page 514, are not to be attributed to me; and every reader will at once perceive that *tenant* and *creation* are the words of the author.

MEAN

MEAN HEIGHTS of the THERMOMETER and BAROMETER, WEATHER, &c. &c. at Belmont Castle,
for ten years, ending 1790.

	Thermometer's			Barometer's			Rain.	Days.			Wind Days.		Coldest Month.	Warmest Month.	Mean Temperature.		
	Height.			Height.				Part.	Rain.	Frost.	Snow.	Westerly.			Easterly.	in the 3 winter months.	in the 3 summer months.
1781	Deg. 82	Deg. 10	Deg. Dec. 48, 7 May.	In. Dec. 30,56	In. Dec. 28,04	In. Dec. 29,64	In. Dec. 27,80	196	158	9	11	216	134	Jan.	July.	Deg. Dec. 36, 6	Deg. Dec. 60, 7
1782	81	16	44, 6 October.	30,30	28,32	29,58	34,40	178	142	37	45	193	153	Febr.	July.	38, 0	57, 2
1783	80	0	47, 2 October.	30,47	28,10	29,61	30,40	199	143	24	23	223	125	Dec.	July.	36, 7	59, 6
1784	76	10	44, 6 October.	30,33	28,42	29,64	23,80	192	121	52	53	189	146	Jan.	July.	32, 0	56, 7
1785	84	10	46, 0 October.	30,63	28,28	29,66	26,30	188	148	50	29	219	144	Febr.	July.	33, 0	60, 0
1786	79	12	45, 3 April.	30,29	28,16	29,60	29,25	179	155	34	31	215	143	Jan.	June.	34, 8	58, 9
1787	74	16	46, 7 October.	30,44	28,22	29,65	32,40	184	160	23	21	217	133	Dec.	Aug.	38, 9	57, 0
1788	74	17	46, 8 October.	30,61	28,60	29,75	24,50	212	132	35	22	213	136	Dec.	July.	35, 7	58, 5
1789	76	12	46, 5 October.	30,75	28,01	29,55	43,40	155	191	21	19	213	135	Jan.	Aug.	34, 7	58, 2
1790	70	25	47, 1 October.	30,52	28,35	29,67	31,75	189	160	11	16	223	116	Dec.	Aug.	41, 6	57, 0
Mean	77,6	12,9	46,35	30,49	28,25	29,63	30,40	187	151	30	27	212	136			36, 2	58, 4

ADDITIONS TO VOLUME II.

N^o XVIII. Page 233.*Parish of Libberton.*

Additional Communications from the Rev. John Fraser, 1790.

The funds for the support of the poor in this, and I believe in almost all the parishes in this part of the country, arise from the voluntary collections at the church door on Sabbath, from the proclamation and mortcloth money, together with the interest of any small sum that may have been saved.

The expences for the support of the poor, in this parish, are less at present, than they were 30 or 40 years ago. This I can ascertain from written accounts kept at the two periods respectively. From the session record, which just now lies before me, I find that the sum distributed among the poor of this parish from 1750 to 1760 amounted exactly to L.220 sterling, and the number of families annually relieved by this sum I find to be generally 13. From the same record, I find that the exact sum distributed among them from 1780 to 1790 amounted only to L. 178, and that the number of families relieved by it were also about 13. It is necessary to explain the reason of this difference. From 1740 to 1760, the heritors met quarterly, and assessed themselves for the support of the poor, in proportion to their respective possessions in the parish: but this wise regulation was soon after dropt, through the negligence of the then minister of the parish,

parish, and has never been revived to this day; and consequently our poor have been supported by the above specified sum for these ten years, because we had no more to give them.

The minister and his elders know the particular situation of every individual poor person in the parish; and consequently we are in no danger of being imposed upon by idle claimants. We make it indeed a part of our business to get acquainted with the circumstances of poor people in the decline of life; and if we can turn to any account the little industry compatible with their situation, we never fail to do it by pointing out to them some kind of employment. There is one regulation, however, which has been followed in this parish for these many years, which has been attended with the happiest effects. It is this—when any person applies to be taken on the poor's roll, we always make them sign a bond, in which they bequeath all their effects of every kind to the session. If they leave a young family at their death, we generally expose all their household utensils to sale, and employ the money in bringing up the children and setting them to business; and if they leave no young children behind them, but have other poor relations advanced in life, it is generally given to them according to their necessities. I should have observed before, that, when they sign the bond, we take an inventory of all their effects; and if any thing be wanting at their death, the relations or friends who have been going about them must account to us for it. This regulation I have always rigorously adhered to; and have thereby prevented several idlers from becoming a burden upon the parish.

The crop of 1782 was remarkably deficient; and, from the session records, I find that there were L. 40 sterling distributed among the poor of this parish in 1783. The landed proprietors

proprietors nobly stepped forth for the support of their poorer brethren in that calamitous year. In some parishes, they sent money to kirk sessions to be distributed according to the necessities of the poor. In others, they imported grain from foreign countries, and sold it out to them at a reduced price. The scarcity of that year has had no effect on our voluntary collections at the church door; they are much the same at present that they were then: neither has it tended to render the people less scrupulous in applying for parish support.

There were very few sectarists in this parish 40 years ago, at present they amount to 99. The despotism of the law of patronage has driven great numbers, and is still driving more and more every year from the established church. These sectarists never contribute one farthing towards the support of our poor. We make however no distinction between them and our own people; when they fall into distress, they obtain supplies from the ordinary parish funds, in the same proportion with those of our own community. From the session records, I see that the sectarists have all along been the greatest burden upon our funds. There are four families of them at this present moment, each of whom have been receiving annually 40s. sterling for these 20 years. It is of justice then, and the call of humanity that they should contribute towards the maintenance of our poor, in the same proportion with the rest of the inhabitants of the parish. But under the present existing laws, there is no way of bringing them in but by a parochial assessment upon the heritors and householders; and this I am very averse to on many accounts, but particularly, because I am persuaded that it tends to encourage idleness and vice among the lower classes of the people. The dread of poverty is the great, and almost only incentive to action. Remove that dread and they cease to be industrious.

Now,

Now, it is effectually removed by a parochial assessment upon the heritors. Relying on the certainty of this legal provision against want, they relax gradually in honest industry, and at last abandoning work altogether, throw themselves upon parish charity without necessity; whereas, when they have none to look up to but the minister and his elders, and nothing to depend upon but the voluntary collections at the church door, they see nothing before them but poverty, or at most, a very scanty subsistence. Idleness, therefore, must yield to exertion in order to better their condition; and thus they are prevented from falling into that torpid state so natural to men who are void of ambition. At the same time it is quite equitable that men of all ranks and denominations should contribute their mite for the relief of the poorer brethren of their nature. But this is far from being the case in Scotland at present. Of the 99 sectarists in this parish, not one of them, as I have already observed, contribute one farthing for the support of our poor. The collections at the doors of their different meeting houses, go entirely to support their own clergy; a set of men who are not only a useless burden upon society, but pernicious also to the morals of the people, by preaching antinomian doctrines, and by which they loosen their obligations to real virtue. We have likewise 9 heritors in this parish, who are nearly as blameable in this respect as the sectarists. None of them reside in the parish; and, except what they contributed in 1783, they have not given us a single penny for the relief of the poor these 26 years. The burden of maintaining them lies entirely upon the frugal and industrious farmers who work hard for a maintenance to themselves. These evils are great. How are they to be corrected? Shall we call for an assessment upon the heritors, and by making the lazy depend upon the pockets of the rich, open a wide door for idleness and sloth?

cloth? Or, shall we continue the present unjust plan, by which our real poor are half starved? I pretend not to be possessed of legislative powers; but I am sure I could contrive a plan for the support of the poor in this parish, by which our present evils would be corrected. And first, I would propose that a tax should be laid upon sectarists equivalent to what people in the same circumstances and who attend the established church, voluntarily give every sabbath at the church door. This is no more than justice; and as the offering we receive every Lord's day from each individual who attends the established church is commonly a halfpenny, the tax laid upon each individual sectarist should be the same. From the number of sectarists in this parish, this tax which cannot be called either oppressive or unjust, would encrease our funds about L.10 sterling per annum. The greatest evil which this country labours under from the sectarists, arises from the diminution which their separation occasions in our collections for the poor on sabbath, and considering the way in which the contributions in their different houses are employed, it is an evil which a wise and an attentive legislature would correct.

To the above tax upon sectarists, the landholders should likewise be obliged to contribute their mite according to their respective possessions in the parish; as they never reside among us, we never see their faces on sabbath, and are consequently deprived of their collections at the church door. But as they in particular are called upon by the laws of Christianity, to support the poor, they should be obliged to send us annually what their collections on sabbath would come to, if they were residing in the parish and attending the church. Were this plan established in the country parishes in Scotland it would be attended with the happiest effects. The real poor would be much better supported than they are at present;

present; idleness would be discouraged, justice established, full scope given to the principle of charity, and all those deplorable evils, with which a legal provision is fraught, in a great measure corrected.

N^o XXVII. Page 339.

Parish of Glencairn.

Corrections by the Rev. Wm. Grierison.

The parish of Glencairn is in the synod of Dumfries; and not of Galloway; and the real rent is only between L.4000 and L.5000, instead of between L.8000 and L.9000, per annum;—as formerly stated by mistake.

No. XXVIII. Page 345.

Parish of Whittingham.

Additional communications from the Rev. John Ewan.

A Statistical Account of the Parish of Whittingham, made up on the 14th May 1792.

Length in English miles	11	Number of persons under	
Breadth ditto	4	10 years	169
Average of births, 10		10 and under 20	146
years preceding 1750	23	20 and under 50	227
Ditto of marriages, do.	7	50 and under 70	76
Inhabitants in the village	141	70 and under 80	32
in the country	513	80 and under 90	3
Number of males	296	90 and under 100	1
of females	358	of families	144

Average number in a family nearly	-	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Clergymen	-	1
Inhabited houses	144		Schoolmasters	-	1
Uninhabited	-	17	Farmers above 50l. per annum	-	19
New houses built with- in these 10 years	10		Ditto under 50l.	-	4
Old houses pulled down	19		Shopkeepers	-	3
Married persons	212		Innkeepers	-	1
Children at an average from each marriage	5 $\frac{1}{2}$		Smiths	-	5
Twins born in the parish for the last 10 years, times	-	5	Masons	-	4
Unmarried men above 50	2		Wrights	-	6
----- women above	45	6	Weavers	-	5
Widowers	5		Shoe-makers	-	8
Widows	24		Tailors	-	4
Members of the estab- lished church	628		Millers	-	4
Seceders	22		Gardeners	-	2
Episcopalians	4		N. B. In stating the number of tradesmen, apprentices and journeymen are includ- ed.		
Males born out of the parish	169		Number of male-farm ser- vants including hinds and taskers	-	92
Females do.	220		Female do.	-	25
Persons born in America	2		Persons serving in the na- vy last war	-	4
Proprietors	9		Carts	-	52
			Ploughs	-	48

The number of black cattle and sheep fed in the parish was formerly mentioned; the value of them when fattened for the butcher is stated as follows:

Cattle

*Cattle of the country breed fed
on grafs.*

A ftot 3 years old 7l. to 10l.

A cow or quey 6l. to 8l.

If continued on turnip their
value will be raifed 2l. 10s.
or 3l.*Highland Cattle.*

A ftot or runt 6l. to 9l.

A cow - 4l. to 5l.

Sheep.

A fat lamb 6s. to 8s.

Do. fome few at 9s.

A ewe 10s. 6d. to 14s.

Wedder 14s. to 18s.

N. B. All the sheep are fup-
pofed to be of the black
faced or Highland breed,
and both cattle and fheep
to be well fed.*Follows a ftatement of the price of grazing in the parifh :*A milk cow on the north fide Feeding a ewe and lamb on
of the parifh, during the the north fide - 10s.
whole feafon 3l. 10s. Do. wedder - 8s.

Do. fouth do. - 3l. Ditto ewe and lamb, fouth

Feeding a cow or ftot, north fide - 8s. 6d.

fide - 2l. 10s. Do. wedder - 7s.

Do. fouth fide - 2l.

Valued rent of the parifh about L. 5899 Scots.

Rent fuppofed to be fpent in the parifh 100 fterl.

Value of Stock.

	Number.	Price.		Average		Total.		
		L.	L.	L.	s.	L.	s.	d.
Draught horfes	116	from 5	to 30	18	0	2088	0	0
Saddle do.	12	-	-	ditto.		216	0	0
Stallion -	1	-	-	-		40	0	0
Young horfes	34	-	-	12	0	408	0	0
Milk cows & } young cattle }	349	from 1	to 10	5	0	1745	0	0
Swine -	87	fr. 7s.	to 40s.	0	12	52	4	0

L. 4549 4 0.

The black cattle and fheep kept for feeding, are not in-
cluded in the above ftatement.

Number of Scotch acres in the parish	-	9267
Do. in the Lammer-muir part	- - -	5870
Do. in the lower part	- - -	3397
Do. arable in do.	- - -	2800
Waste, and occupied with plantations, gardens, houses, &c.	- - -	597

Follows a probable calculation of the quantity of grain consumed annually in the parish by the inhabitants, by horses, and during the time of Harvest.

Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.
Bolls.	Bolls.	Bolls.	Bolls.
150.	195.	2300.	195.

There are about 2800 Scotch acres of arable land in the parish, which are laid out during the current year in the following manner :

	No. of acres.	Average produce per acre.	Total.
Wheat	237	7 bolls.	1659 bolls.
Oats - -	758	6 —	4548 —
Barley - -	180	6 —	1080 —
Pease - -	107	5 —	535 —
Beans - -	15	10 —	150 —
Potatoes - -	23	30 —	690 —
Turnips - -	93	Av. value per acre. L. 3	L. 279
Sown grafs for hay	165	Av. stones per acre. 175	Tot. numb. of stones 28875
Sown grafs for cutting	30		Av. price per stone 4d.
Summer fallow -	207		
Past. for feeding black cattle and sheep }	414		
Pasture for milk cows, young cattle and horses }	571		

N. B. The prices of the different grains will be seen in the fairs of East Lothian.

Errata.—Page 347, line 25, for ‘1700 ft.’ read ‘700 ft.’

Page 348, line 2, the price of wedders is omitted, viz. from 11s. 6d. to 14s. 6d.

Ditto, line 3, for ‘fed’ read ‘bred.’

Page 349, line 5, for ‘fouth’ read ‘north.’

Ditto, line 11, for ‘capable of producing finer crops,’ &c. read ‘capable of producing as rich crops,’ &c.

Page 350, line 15, for ‘Rushlaw’ read ‘Ruchlaw.’

Page 351, line 6, for ‘the people are all virtuous’ read ‘the people in general are virtuous.’

Ditto, line 30, for ‘4 or 6 miles,’ read ‘4 or 5 miles.’

Page 354, line 29, for ‘3 millers,’ read ‘4 millers.’

No. XXXVIII. Page 423.

Parish of Burntisland.

Additional Communications from the Rev. James Wemyss.

I had the honour to receive yours some weeks ago, and since that time have made out an exact numeration of the parish, and find the whole to be 1210. Still, however, there is a deficiency of the number made in the return to Dr. Webster. This, I apprehend, may be accounted for from the decrease in shipping since that period, and also from the tenants and proprietors having fewer cottars upon their grounds than formerly—this I think a bad plan, and an evil attending large farms.

ADDI.

ADDITIONS TO VOLUME III.

No. V. Page 66.

Parish of Monymusk.

Contents of the Woods on the estate of Monymusk, as communicated by Sir Archibald Grant, Baronet.

	A.	R.	F.
Firs full grown - - - -	786	1	25
— rising - - - -	984	2	23
Spruce, geen and garden trees - -	19	3	16
Oak, birch, hazle and alder - -	235	0	25
Ash, elm, beech, &c. - - -	23	0	12
	2049	0	21

The trees about farm towns, in tenants' yards, along the sides of roads, in hedges, and between fields, are not included in the foregoing computation, and are mostly *hard wood*.

*Monymusk, 14th Jan. }
1797.*

No. IX. Page 98.

Parish of Ellon.

Corrections by the Rev. James Miln.

Perfuated as I am that you incline that your Statistical Account of our country should be as exact as possible, I trust
you

you will give me leave to take notice to you of a mistake in the account of the parish of Ellon, Vol. iii. p. 101, where it is said that the schoolmaster of Ellon has 100 merks from the proprietor of Waterton; whereas the fact is, that he has only 40 merks. Allow me also to point out to you another mistake in the same volume in page 1st of the contents, where the parishes of Ellon and Loudoun are placed the one for the other, and the population of the one stated as the population of the other.

No. XXII. Page 198.

Parish of Coull.

Corrections by the Rev. Alex. Robertson.

On the article of population a capital mistake has been committed, owing, I suppose, to the carelessness of the transcriber; and which has been attended with serious consequences to me, in an application to the Court of Teinds for augmentation of stipend. The population of the parish is stated to be in 1790 at 465 souls; whereas in fact the numbers were, and still are, considerably above that. In my original letter to Sir J. Sinclair, it was particularly observed, that there was a district of this parish, belonging to Sir W. Forbes of Craigievar, the inhabitants of which, by reason of their distance from their own parish church, were annexed *quoad sacra* to the church of Leochel, and under the charge of the minister of Leochel; and that, as I was then a stranger in the county, and entirely unacquainted with the numbers in that district, I referred to the minister of Leochel's letter for the exact enumeration of them. The population of this district, which is called Corse, is very considerable,

as will appear by turning up the Statistical Account of the parish of Leochel, and should have been added to the population of Coull; and not to that of Leochel.

No. LII. Page 344.

Parish of Polmont.

Corrections by the Rev. William Finlay.

The parish of Polmont is not *intersected*, but bounded, by the Frith of Forth on the north, and by the river Avon on the east. A small part of it is intersected by a short cut from Grangemouth to the Forth, which now forms the only navigable communication betwixt that and the Great Canal.—The *ironstone* is sold by the proprietors of land to the Carron Company, not at *tenpence per stone*, but at *tenpence per ton*.—The annual amount of funds for the relief of the poor is not *twenty-eight* pounds, but about *fifty-five*, and the expenditure about *fifty-two*.—By an interlocutor of the Tiend Court, June 1793, the stipend of this parish is ordained to be 111 bolls, 2 firlots, 1 peck, 2 lippies bear, 56 bolis of meal, and L.152:10:10 Scots money, with L.60 money forsfaid for furnishing the communion elements.—The real rent of the parish amounts to about L.4000 sterling per annum.

No. LIII. Page 347.

Parish of Hoddam.

Corrections by the Rev. James Yorston.

The parish of *Luce*, which was united to that of Hoddam, is, in the Statistical Account, erroneously called the parish of *Line*.

The

The present castle of Hoddam, which was mentioned, in the account which was transmitted, as having been built by Lord *Herreis* in the days of Queen Mary, is, in the account which is published, said to have been built by Lord *Kerfes*. I do not remember to have either read or heard of such a Lord.

The sum mortified to the poor by Mr Alexander, which is L.1195:6:4 Scots money, is, in the Statistical Account, said to be L.1119:19:4. This mistake originated with myself. But, immediately after I transmitted the account of the parish, recollected the mistake, and wrote a letter to you correcting it, which, amidst the number of objects with which you have been engaged, has escaped your attention.

Instead of the *east* side of the old parish of Luce, on which a considerable tract of land lies waste, it is, in the Statistical Account, said the *west* side.

No. LX. Page 405.

Parish of Kildonan.

Additional Communications from the Rev. Mr Sage.

Statistical Table of the Parish of Kildonan, from 15th Jan. 1792, to 27th Feb. 1793.

Families	-	-	-	-	197
Batchelors above 50	-	-	-	-	1
Unmarried women above 45	-	-	-	-	17
Members of the established church	-	-	-	-	2
Clergymen	-	-	-	-	2
Merchants	-	-	-	-	1
Physicians	-	-	-	-	2
Innkeepers	-	-	-	-	5
Smiths	-	-	-	-	2
Vol. XXI.		K		Carpenters	

Carpenters	-	-	-	-	6
Weavers	-	-	-	-	14
Shoemakers	-	-	-	-	30
Tailors	-	-	-	-	6
Millers	-	-	-	-	6
Poor	-	-	-	-	18
Average of persons settled in the parish for 10 last years					5
Distillers in Co. with 1 Pot, Excise L. 30 sterling					6
Soldiers who served in last American war				-	100
Do. in India against Hyder and Tippoo				-	2

Annual Produce.

Small Highland oats, sowing 100 penny lands—300 bolls
—increase, near 3 returns—850 bolls.

Bear, sowing 120 bolls—increase, 5 returns—510 bolls.

Potatoes, feed, 18 bolls—increase, 4 returns—72 bolls.

Pease, 1 boll feed—increase, 7 bolls.

With regard to the annual produce, the four articles condescended on, are the chief produce of the parish; and the land is designed by penny lands, instead of the general term of acres. Mr Sage was obliged to make this substitution, as the arable land was never measured into acres. The hay, which is meadow grass, cannot be ascertained, as it is seldom or ever weighed or fold among the Highlanders.

ADDITIONS TO VOLUME IV.

No. XII. Page 92.

Parish of Tealing.

Additional Communications from the Rev. John Gellatly.

The deaths in the year 1792 encreased about one fourth of our average number; but in the one immediately preceding, amounted even to more than double. This uncommon mortality was chiefly owing to an epidemical sore throat; the fatal issue of which, I have reason to believe, might, in several instances, have been prevented by proper care.

On this occasion, I cannot help observing, that one of the greatest evils under which the country people labour is, the want of proper medical assistance. Though this, I believe, has been long and generally acknowledged, yet the only remedy for it I recollect ever to have heard proposed was, to oblige every student of divinity to devote some part of his time to the study of surgery or physic. As some strong objections may be made to this, I beg leave to ask, Would it be practicable to establish in every three or four parishes, situated beyond a certain distance from any town or considerable village, a regular bred surgeon and man-midwife? I should be glad you found the query not altogether unworthy of your attention.

No. XVII. Page 138.

Parish of Kirkinner.

Corrections by the Rev. John Graham.

In the month of February 1791, there was sent to you an account of the parish of Kirkinner, such as I could make out at the time, with a strict regard, I am conscious, to the true state of facts, as far as, after some considerable pains to be well informed, they were known to me. Not doubting that you would make the best use of the materials I had sent, agreeably to the plan and laudable design of your statistical undertaking, I thought no more on the matter, until, in the month of October last, I was informed, by a letter from a friend, that my name stood as a voucher for some very extraordinary particulars relating to this parish. This induced me to apply for that volume of your work in which you have published the account of this parish. It is in the 4th volume. In page 140 of that volume, you publish to the world, under the sanction of my name, that there is a fresh-water lake on the S. W. of this parish containing pike and *herring*. I did not keep an exact copy of what I sent to you; but in the short-hand notes which contain the first sketch of my account, the words are,—‘The lake abounds with pike, but ‘they are not turned to much account.’ Perhaps, in writing out what was sent, to pike I might add, ‘and perch;’ for perch are really found in the lake. But it is certainly long since I have been so ignorant as not to know that pike and herrings never met alive in the same waters. By what mischance, or by what humour, certainly more wanton than either candid or benevolent, not of your’s, surely, but of the person employed to arrange your materials, this strange ridicule hath been introduced,

duced, I know not. Had you, or your trustee in the business, found such an absurd assertion, it should either have been supposed that the word *herring* was the mere slip of the pen, as I see you have supposed in some instances with others of your correspondents, or the whole account should have been rejected as that of a fool or of a liar. But if, upon looking into the MS. you find, as surely you must find, that the strange assertion complained of is not mine; you can have no objection to acknowledge that no such assertion is found in my papers. Or, if this imply a trouble to which you do not chuse to submit; will you, Sir, return the whole of my papers, with your signature, or that of your clerk, upon them, to ascertain their identity, that I may satisfy the public, by the attestation of some of my respectable neighbours, after their inspection of my manuscript, that the fool's cap I have been made to wear was not put on by my own hand? You know, Sir, as well as I, that there are minds which relish nothing so much as ridicule, and feel a pleasing exultation of spirits, when they can laugh at a real or supposed absurdity of their neighbour. Among such minds, the herrings of Loch-Dowalton have attracted more attention than all the rest of the paper; which indeed was neither designed nor suited to attract any notice to the writer, but presented some other objects, perhaps, not unworthy the steady regards of humanity. The writer only feels it as a misfortune to be called to defend himself against a charge so foolish, that even the defence seems to be folly. The merry ones will continue to laugh, and graver humanity will feel for him. As those who possess this character are the chief objects of his esteem, he will be satisfied with not forfeiting theirs, which he hopes never to do by any breach of truth. As to the rest, you, Sir, perhaps have read an anecdote of a French gentleman, who was in the habit of soliciting from his friends favours

for

for the poor, and having been very importunate with one of them on some such occasion, received for answer a box on the ear, on which he only remarked, ‘ Voila, pour moi et mes ‘ pauvres !’ Of the herrings of Loch-Dowalton, I fear, I may say, So much for me and my poor ! Unfortunately, they can never fill the bellies of the poor ; though they have been used by some of the rich as anchovies to make their wine relish.

There are besides, Sir, some other mistakes in the account of Kirkinner, which I think must have arisen from changing my words, and misapprehending my meaning, though none of them of so signally absurd an aspect as the former.

In just the next sentence to the account of Loch-Dowalton, it is said, ‘ The extent of waste ground along the frith of ‘ Cree is about 3 miles.’ In my jottings I find the words thus: ‘ The extent of the coast along the frith of Cree is about ‘ three miles ; it is flat and fletchy.’ I know of no ground in this parish that can properly be called either waste or common. It is all property, and all in use for tillage or pasture. There is indeed a narrow strip along the frith lately cut off by a fence from the adjoining grounds ; but, even to the tide, it is Lord Selkirk’s property, and is used as pasture. I did not wish to convey to the public any false, or even any indistinct idea, as far as my understanding served me.

Your transcriber for the press has either, in several instances, mistaken the characters in my writing, or the compositor of the types has mistaken his. Where I wrote Baldoon, they have always put Baldern. In page 138 of vol. 4th, for ‘ *course land of Baldern,*’ read ‘ *carse land of Baldoon,*’ 6th line from the bottom of the page. Wherever Baldern occurs, read Baldoon.

Page 144, in the middle, I find the words, ‘ the glebe ‘ about 9 acres of very bad soil ;’ in place of which, the words

in the jottings that remain with me are, 'the glebe about 9
'acres of the worst to be found in the neighbourhood:'
which words express the fact as it is, and therefore I cannot
think that, in transcribing for you, I would change them for
others that convey a sense not strictly just; for though the
greater part of my glebe be in fact of the worst soil in the im-
mediate neighbourhood, it is, nevertheless, not a very bad soil.

Page 145, line 4th, for 'no manufacturers,' read 'no ma-
'nufactures;' and line 15th, for 'Burness,' read 'Barness.'
The urn, mentioned in the 21st line of the same page, was
not found in a farm of Sir W. Maxwell's, as a reader will be
led to think, but in a farm of the Earl of Selkirk's called Bal-
fern, as was, I think, distinctly stated in my papers sent to
you; for I find it so stated in my jottings.'

Page 147, line 1st, for 'manufacturers,' read 'manufac-
'tures.'

No. XXI. Page 166.

Parish of Ormiston.

Additional Communications from the Rev. Alex. Colvill.

The average sum expended in maintaining the poor is
L. 35:14:8, besides Lord Hopeton's private charity, which
cannot be exactly ascertained. But, making a proper allow-
ance for it, and also for all adventitious circumstances of this
kind, L. 43:4 per annum at an average would be sufficient,
which is precisely L. 5 sterling for each hundred of persons
in the parish. From having fixed this point on my own per-
sonal knowledge, I am enabled to go a little farther. If you
suppose the population of Scotland to amount to 1,500,000
persons, then by the above computation of L. 5 sterling for
each

each hundred of persons, it will take L. 75,000 to maintain the parochial poor in this part of the island; a sum which one would think altogether insufficient, comparing it with the expence of supporting the poor in England, where I suppose there are 7,000,000 of people. By my computation it would require only L. 350,000 to supply the poor of England, instead of L. 2,000,000, which I am informed is the sum it really costs.

To a gentleman of your penetration, I need not observe, that were real objects of charity only to receive relief in their own houses, and to that extent only which is necessary, a great sum might be saved to the country, a sum more than sufficient for the building of bridewells and work houses for the idle and dissolute, and also for improving every acre of waste land in Great Britain; a sum which, as at present applied, tends to retard, rather than to accelerate the general interests of society.

I think the poor in general are well provided for in Scotland, at a moderate expence. There are indeed many beggars who walk from door to door and ask relief; but this is not so much from necessity as from profligacy, and a desire to wander, rather than to be supported on a fixed residence by the parishes to which they belong.

The poor of this parish have been almost always supported by voluntary contributions; when that mode fails, however, or is likely to fail, which was the case for the first time in 1757, application is made to the Earl of Hopeton, the sole proprietor of this parish, who grants an assessment generally to the amount of L. 20 sterling; the one half to be paid by himself, the other by his tenants in proportion to their rents, as law directs; and when an assessment has been necessary, it has not hitherto been scrupled neither by the proprietor nor his tenants, for if it were, application might be made to the
sheriff

sheriff of the county, who is warranted by law to interpose his authority.

The expence of maintaining the poor in this parish has encreased within the last 30 or 40 years, but no more than in proportion to the price of provisions. This is ascertained by written accounts kept at the two periods respectively.

N^o XXV. Page 191.

Parish of Inchtute.

*Additional Communications and Corrections by the
Rev. John Millar.*

The heritors are—The Right Hon. Lord Kinnaird; valued rent L. 425 : 7 : 11 sterl.—Sir John Wedderburn; valued rent L. 129 : 7 : 3½ sterl. Sir John is the only residing heritor at present. His seat is delightfully situated at the foot of the rising ground that bounds the Carse of Gowrie on the N.—And John Allen of Errol, Esq. is the only other heritor in the parish; his valued rent is L. 39 : 17 : 9½ sterl.

Lord Kinnaird's seat at present is Drimmie House, about a mile east from this village of Inchtute; it lies in the parish of Long-Forgan. His Lordship has of late years made out a beautiful park at Rossie, including hilly and low grounds. On the higher part of the grounds, there is great deal of planting, in a very thriving state, which serves greatly to beautify the country. And, he intends a family house, on a most delightful situation, overlooking a great part of his large estate, the view terminated by the Tay and the hills of Fife. A little east from the spot on which his Lordship intends to build, and within the park, there is a beautiful den,

called Rossie Den, and a great deal of thriving planting in it. Of late years he has planted a great many fruit trees of various kinds on the east side of the den, which are in a very thriving state. There is another den on the west side of his Lordship's park, running up from Balledgarno about a mile; in it there is also a great deal of fine planting. Both dens are his Lordship's property. In each of the dens there is a small rivulet; they take their rise in the hill grounds, and meet at one point, viz. at the bridge of Moncur, half a mile east from this village. The fine turnpike road lately made betwixt Perth and Dundee crosses that bridge; and there the rivulets united, run in one channel to south east, on the west side of Castle Huntly, for near three miles, and fall into the Tay, near Monorgan, a seat in the parish of Long-Forgan. Castle Huntley, Mr. Paterson's seat, is likewise in that parish. In the rivulet there is excellent trout fishing for the entertainment of the sportsman with the fishing rod.

The names of the towns here, are supposed to be mostly Gaelic, and descriptive of the place. Balledgarno, is said by some, to signify 'the town of Arno'; by others, 'the town of Edgar'; for above the den, on the east side, is the Castle Town Farm, where very old foundations have been dug up. Ballindean is said to signify 'the town of the steep brae.' Moncur is said to have got its appellation from a former proprietor's name. It is the ruin of a castle, and adjoins to Lord Kinnaird's park. His Lordship has lately planted trees and shrubbery around it. In this carse there are many drains or ditches; some of them are called Pow, or Pol. Powgavie or Polgavie, seems to have got its name from its situation. It is a village on the banks of the Tay, adjoining to one of these large drains.—Here there is a pier and a good harbour for shipping; and at this pier, since I gave an account of this parish,

parish, Lord Kinnaird, the proprietor, has erected a large granary that will contain six thousand bolls of victual.

It is omitted in Vol. iv. No. 25, though the account formerly given of this parish bore it, that flax seed is sown, and though not in great quantities, yet of late years, sundry farmers have got premiums for raising flax. Most of the farmers here also sow turnip for their cattle, and plant potatoes, which are found to be good feeding both for their horses and cattle, only they need to be well cleaned.

There are several orchards in this parish. Also, several good quarries, particularly one adjoining to this village of Inchtute, and another at the village of Ballindean; the stones in both quarries are of a reddish colour, can be raised of any size, are easily dressed, stand the weather well, and do take a fine polish.—My attention has of late been particularly called to notice this. In my former account, Vol. iv. No. 25, it is said, the manse is old, but this Summer a new one is building in a much better situation than the old one; and a new set of offices on a neat plan is likewise to be built.

In this village there is a stamp-office, where a great deal of cloth is stamped, chiefly Osnaburgh, and a thin cloth, called Silesia. Coals are the only fuel in the parish; they are got at the pier of Pol, or Powgavie, price in general about L. 3 the chalders, 52 stones for the boll.

The number of threshing mills are increasing daily in this part of the country. There are now 8 or 9 in this parish, and probably there will yet be more; they are found to be a great improvement, and answer a good purpose to the farmers when straitened for time, and when there is a good market for their victual.—In regard to these mills, there is a prodigious mistake in Vol. iv. No. 25, page 193; the truth is, the mill that goes by water, threshes at an average from 5 to 8 bolls in an hour; and it can be well attested, that, at one

time, it did thresh some pecks more than 23 bolls in two hours. The mills drawn by 4 horses, sometimes 6 horses, do at an average thresh from 4 to 6 bolls in the hour.

In regard to the succession of ministers in this parish, let it be observed, that one Mr. Blackie, the first Presbyterian minister here, was translated from Redgorton, in the presbytery of Perth, June 1st 1710; the cure was served before by a Mr. Carstairs, who was alive at that time, and continued for some years after to have a place of worship in the parish for the benefit of the Episcopalians in it who still adhered to him. Mr. Blackie died about the end of 1723, and was succeeded by Mr. Ogilvy, who was translated to be one of the ministers of Aberdeen, anno 1727. Mr. Ranken succeeded Mr. Ogilvy, and died anno 1737. In 1738, Mr. Randal succeeded Mr. Ranken, and was translated to Stirling anno 1769. He was succeeded by his son. And, in November 1773, Mr. Randal, junior, now one of the ministers of Edinburgh, was admitted one of the ministers of Glasgow. The present minister of this parish was translated from Newburgh, Fife, where he was minister near 12 years, the 1st of June 1774.

No. XXX. Page 227.

Parish of Criech.

Additional Communications by the Rev. Michael Greenlaw, D.D.

	Births.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
From 1712 to 1721, both inclusive	66	71	137
From 1722 to 1731, both inclusive	64	59	123
From 1732 to 1741, both inclusive	40	57	97
From 1742 to 1751, both inclusive	51	36	87
			From

	Births.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
From 1752 to 1761, both inclusive	65	36	101
From 1762 to 1771, both inclusive	40	42	82
From 1772 to 1781, both inclusive	34	36	70
From 1782 to 1791, both inclusive	43	51	94
From 1783 to 1791, both inclusive, the number of marriages was 16, and of burials 38.			

Above is a list of the births, distinguishing males and females in the parish of Criech from the year 1712; that is, as far back as our registers can be depended on. When I had the honour of writing to you formerly on this subject, the weakness of my eyes and the distress of our schoolmaster, disabled me from sending this part of the statistical account. This list shews this singular circumstance: that, though this parish is diminished about one fifth within these 40 years, through its vicinity to manufacturing towns and other causes I mentioned, yet the number of our births are by no means diminished in the same proportion. I ascribe this to the ease, affluence, and contentment, in which our people live under our present happy government. The flourishing of agriculture, trade, manufactures, always promotes matrimony and population.

I could wish to correct a small, but awkward, mistake, which the compiler or publisher had fallen into, in the printed account of this parish, concerning our Norman camps. In the printed account, they are called first Roman camps, and then they are immediately described as Norman ones. It might be a mere typographical mistake; but it looks awkward. Norman camps they certainly were. One of the hills where they are is still called Normans' Law. Our vestiges of these camps are neither on the kind of ground the Romans

mans usually chose, nor of the shape of Roman camps. The bold warriors of ancient Rome trusted more to their sword and their valour than to heights of difficult access. The Normans were mere plunderers; and chose these heights to deposit their plunder, till they heard of a rising in our country sufficient to beat them off, and then hurried down to their ships in the Tay with what they had got. Besides, the Roman camps were squares, or nearly so; whereas our vestiges are all circles, which was the Norman form.

Our marriages and burials were not registered with any exactness till the tax commenced in 1782.

My parish contribute for a complete copy of the Statistical volumes. They embraced the proposal whenever I mentioned it, though we have only eight readers in this small parish. I have endeavoured to persuade my neighbours to adopt that same plan, but they are slow.

In large parishes where they would have many more readers, the expence would be a mere trifle. It were pity that every one were not active in so useful and beneficent a plan, where you have shown such disinterested activity.

No. XXXII. Page 236.

Parish of Barrie.

It was omitted to be mentioned that the valued rent of this parish in 1791, was L. 2255; 8:4 Scotch; and the real rent L. 900 sterling.

No.

No. XLII. Page 308.

Parish of Duthil.

Supplement to the Statistical Account of the united parishes of Duthil and Rothiemurchus; by the Rev. Patrick Grant.

It is highly gratifying to view a spirit of industry and improvement, of late years, prevailing in this country in general. During the late scarcity of grain, so universal, the inhabitants of this country were able to afford large supplies to their neighbours; and would in all seasons do so, did the frost in August and September keep off. By attention to fishall binding and packing about wood, a rainy season does not in the least alarm them. To the mere habit of large binding, and allowing corn to remain upon broad band for a day, perhaps longer, without discrimination of a wet or dry season, may, in a great measure, be ascribed the late scarcity southward. If the top of the sheaf is dry, it matters little should the bottom be taken out of a puddle. If properly packed about wood, the whole will be perfectly safe. But it requires judgment and practice.—Among many arguments in favour of large plantations of wood in uncultivated ground, this is not the least considerable. A supply of wood for the above purpose, would perhaps be a mean of preventing a famine.

But, it is matter of regret that, in a situation far from the sea-coast, the market, for the most part, is precarious; in which case, even great exertion and expence will seldom reward the labours of industry. Hence numbers are induced to repair to distant countries in quest of various occupations.—Still that local situation rarely exists attended with disadvantages

vantages which admits of no remedy. They exist more in idea than in reality; and are owing, for the most part, to inattention to proper means of industry.

The writer of this article has long contemplated with pleasure the advantages that would arise, not solely to this country, but also to all Britain, were manufactories of linen and woollen cloth carried on individually; that is, a loom, or looms, established in each farm-house, in proportion to the farmer's abilities. In this parish there are at least 600 acres perfectly adapted for flax. The objection, that this mode of manufacture would interfere with the business of the farm, vanishes, by the possibility of making them distinct and separate objects, so as that the one party should at no time interfere with the department of the other. Add to this, that a source of gain is of all others the most powerful source of industry; the produce of labour being easily transported to a ready market.

It will be said, that establishing villages in proper situations would be a preferable mode of carrying on manufactories. The writer of this article is unfortunately singular in his idea of the utility of villages. They are ornaments to a country, but too frequently nurseries of political disquisition. —Villages, it will be argued, afford a ready market even for trivial articles from a farm. But the profits arising therefrom are only seemingly advantageous. The farmer's wife or daughter repairs to the village to dispose of her basket of eggs. This is one advantage arising from the neighbourhood of a village. But, what is the consequence? She returns loaded with tea, sugar, a bottle of wine as a cordial or medicine, some yards of fine muslin, silk and satin: articles she never would have dreamt of, had she not been ensnared by the glare and show of a fine shop, and unfortunately forgot the most necessary petition, 'into temptation lead me not.'

But,

But, allowing the utility of villages in its utmost extent; still the establishment of private manufactories can be no embarrassment upon that utility, or upon the business of farming. To corroborate which, we need only look to our neighbouring country Ireland, crowded with cities and villages, and farming also carried on to a great extent.

Hence this measure, among many other advantages, would be a vast source of population. What crowds of both sexes, in different corners of the kingdom, leave their native soil in quest of employment! thousands of whom, by a sudden transition of living, and other casualties, are hurried to, an untimely grave. Had they sufficient employment in their native country; few would think of going in quest of that subsistence they might find where they drew their first breath, and fewer still would visit foreign shores. Thus would Britain quadruple its numbers by a race of hardy sons, attached by the fruits of sober industry, and bid defiance to every usurping foe! France would not then even dare to menace her well-guarded shore.

In Ireland, experience, long experience, has sanctioned this mode of manufacture, and given her the superiority in the linen market. What has not nature done, what would not industry do, in that well-situated isle? Prosperous and happy might she be, were not that happiness abused. The Irish lord, wallowing in luxury, is consequently regardless of the shameful abuse committed by the destructive mode of wadsetting, or nearly so, his fruitful soil, by renting it to a few, who are denominated respectable farmers. These sublet to a second class; the second to a third; and so on, to a sixth. From the second class, what strides does oppression make! By remedying this source of grievance, Ireland would become happy, prosperous and peaceful.

To this mode of oppression, how striking the following

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contrast!

contrast ! This country, in common with others, long laboured under the same destructive grievance. But, the present proprietor, Sir James Grant, so soon as he got possession of his property, struck at the root of this baneful evil, by paying off the wadsets, under which hardship a great part of his property laboured ; and thus unfettered the hands of industry, which he has invariably encouraged. But, industry, when long cramped and discouraged, becomes slow and tardy in recovery : People get into habits and modes of culture, which time, long time, can hardly induce them to relinquish. Thus Sir James Grant's property in this and the other parishes still admits of improvement. And, over what soil will the traveller cast his eye where this does not hold true ? Still, Sir James Grant, by an uniformity of conduct, in giving every proof that it is his earnest wish to render his people happy and comfortable, has the satisfaction of being possessed of the sincere attachment of a numerous and industrious tenantry, with every individual of whom he is personally acquainted : A proof of which was given in recruiting the 1st Fencible Regiment ; and in this hour of aid and exertion, they with one voice declare their readiness to take the field, solicitous, in that event, that Sir James Grant may be their leader.

Arming the Highlanders.—In the present hour of alarm and urgency, it is matter of surprize that exertion has hitherto been so slow, when every individual is threatened in his person, family and property, by an insulting and rapacious foe.

All able to bear arms throughout Sir James Grant's property, and that of Rothiemurchus, scouting the idea of individuals being picked out, or serving within the limits of certain counties, are eager to a man to be trained to arms, and follow

Follow their leader, Sir James Grant, wherever the enemy dare to trample on, Scottish ground.

His Majesty has not more zealous, faithful or loyal subjects, than ‘the sober-minded’ Highlanders, throughout the whole of the vast extent of country they possess. At a distance from nurseries of vice, and fashionable, but destructive luxuries of life; prosperous and happy under indulgent masters; sensible of the privileges they enjoy under a mild government;—they are eager to defend and preserve these invaluable blessings. Of the disaffection and disloyalty of some individuals southward, they talk with detestation. Of French fraternity and equalization, they express themselves with horror, as a measure under which society could not subsist. Not from individuals only, but from many of the inhabitants of the parish of Duthil and Rothiemurchus, has the writer of this article heard, with much satisfaction, the following just and proper idea, clothed in the forcible language of a sagacious Highlander:—‘That, from the Almighty, to the lowest reptile, a regular chain of subordination exists; and ‘praying God to preserve that chain, and prevent horror ‘and confusion; and for that valuable purpose, to bless and ‘counsel the judges of the land to administer justice and equity betwixt man and man.’

Woods.—A considerable extent of ground in this parish lies under aller wood, the most useless for manufacture, and yet occupies the most fertile soil. How preferable would it be, how pleasing to the eye, how much more profitable to proprietors and tenants, to see fields of corn and flax alternately in its stead, surrounded with rows of beech, elm, &c. ! The present proprietor of Rothiemurchus has the merit of introducing this piece of improvement, among many others, into his property.

Muir-burning.—The sportsman exclaims, nay, thunders out execrations and anathemas against the shepherd as an enemy to game. Burning of heath is in some degree a science, executed partially, with consideration and caution; seldom done but from the 1st of October to the month of March, and at no time until the heath begins to decay. The benefit of it to sheep is immense, in point of feeding and medicine. To the game, especially grouse, it is luxury. The heather bells from the young growth, pregnant with honey, the variety of mountain berries, and the richness of verdure, which continues for several years until the heath becomes rank and begins to decay, afford a plentiful subsistence to the game. Could the feathered tribe articulate, they would bless the hand which was the mean of so plentiful a store. In effect, in hoarse and sonorous notes they do so.—The idea that heath, if never burned, would in time decay and be eradicated, scarcely deserves a reply.

Turnip and Potatoes.—The culture of turnip has in most countries been carried to perfection; that of potatoes, of late years, has made great progress, but, in point of feeding cattle, not so universally attended to. Turnips are dangerous to cows before calving, and many suffer thereby; but they improve even by a few handfuls of potatoes a-day, and no quantity will injure them. Beef fed upon turnips is far inferior in quality to that upon potatoes; three bolls of which, with straw or hay, and a sheaf of corn each a day, for the last two or three weeks, will completely feed an ox of an ordinary size. Peat and turf ashes, if kept dry, and laid in drills, so as to go a greater length, will yield excellent turnips, and feeding cattle upon the field will sufficiently manure it. Thus the manure commonly used for turnips may be allotted for potatoes; no matter how rich for such as are intended

intended for cattle. But manure for potatoes to be used in the kitchen, requires great attention. The difficulty of preserving potatoes in winter will be an objection, by some people, against the culture of them to any great extent. This objection arises from mere indolence. The immense benefit of them to man and beast, if properly attended to, will more than repay the labour required in preserving them in pits, vaults and mill-leads, that is, in plain Scots, the sheelings of the corn; a small quantity of which thrown among a number of bolls of potatoes, but covered foot deep upon the surface, will secure them, under a roof, from the severest frost, and render them more dry and mellow, and preserve them fit for use during a great part of summer.

Eminent Characters.—Dr. William Grant, physician in London, was son to James Grant of Rothiemurchus. Having taken his degree of M. A. at the College of Aberdeen, he commenced his medical studies in the University of Edinburgh, under the celebrated Drs. Monro, Rutherford, Alston, Whytt. Having received the most ample testimonials of his character and abilities from his several masters, he entered the University of Franeker, in Friesland, where he studied for two years. He then removed to Paris, where he remained for six months; when hearing of a very mortal fever, which the French physicians thought new, had broke out at Rouen in Normandy, he repaired thither on purpose to attend the hospital where it prevailed. At Rouen he continued three months, and then returned to Paris, where he soon after took the degree of M. D. He thence returned and settled in London, in 1755, where he practised physic for about 36 years. His several medical publications speak superior abilities in his profession; and the estimation he was held in abroad is conspicuous from the correspondence
of

of eminent physicians upon the continent, copies of which, in Latin, are to be seen at the end of the 2d edition of his *Treatise on Fevers*. His chief correspondents were Kauffman, Tissot, De Haen, and Stoll; the latter of whom dedicated a medical work to him, and pronounces him to be a blessing to mankind. Finding his health impaired, he resolved to retire to his native soil; where he devoted his whole attention to the improvement of his paternal property, and tendering medical counsel and assistance to the sick and disabled. Finding a disorder in his stomach becoming obstinate, he repaired to Edinburgh; where having lingered, with becoming and exemplary resignation and fortitude, under a severe illness for three months, notwithstanding the united efforts of the ablest physicians, he resigned his last breath.—Dr. Grant, in social intercourse, rendered himself the delight of all his acquaintance. Never was there a man who, with so much knowledge, and so much energy of expression in conversation, rendered himself more pleasant in company, or was more regretted when he died.

Alexander Cumming, son to Mr James Cumming late in Aviemore in the parish of Duthil, gave striking proofs of mechanical genius at an early period of life, when a boy at school. Being patronised by John Duke of Argyle, he resided under the patronage of the Duke at Inveraray for several years. From thence he settled in London, where his inventions and improvements in the mechanical line recommended him to the favour of the late Earl of Bute, and the notice of his present Majesty. Having, by his merit and industry in the mechanical department, acquired a sufficient independency, he now enjoys the fruit of his labour in his villa near London.

No. LVI. Page 421.
Parish of Logie-Buchan.

*Additional Communications from the Rev. William Paterfon,
in 1797.*

The population is 509 souls; of whom 264 are males, and 245 females,—from an enumeration taken in 1796.

I have farther to observe, as an appendix to the Statistical Account of this parish, which I drew up in 1791, that a very desirable alteration in the state of agriculture has taken place since that period. I then observed, that improvements here were in their infancy, and that the shortness of the leases was a great bar to their advancement; with a very few exceptions, 19 years was the longest lease that was at that time given in this parish: and though on improved farms this may be considered as long enough, I am convinced it will always be found an insuperable obstacle to the commencement of improvements. A tenant possessed of a capital will never lay it out on a waste farm on so short a tenure. About 3 years ago, several substantial farmers from the county of Angus, invited to this corner by the lowness of the rents, compared with what they paid at home, and the command of the means of improvement which our vicinity to the coast and the river Ythan gave them, took farms here;—and, I believe nearly a third part of this parish is now occupied by tenants from beyond the Grampians. Mr. Buchan of Auchmacoy was among the first who gave them encouragement to settle here by the liberal terms on which he was willing to set his farms. A good part of this gentleman's property is now let on leases of 38 and 57 years, with a rising rent at certain periods; and though at first some of the neighbouring gentlemen ex-
claimed

claimed against this mode, as tying up a proprietor's hands from the management of his estate; I am confident that Mr. Buchan and his heirs will in the end be great gainers by his management. In place of a set of poor tenants, who were scarcely able to pay their rents and earn a scanty subsistence, and at the end of their leases went off in arrears to the proprietor, and left their farms in worse condition than they entered with them, he, in his own time, has the satisfaction of seeing a thriving tenantry, and his lands daily improving—a sure rental in place of a nominal one—and, at the end of these leases, the rents will be higher than they would have risen if let under short leases—the fields in a much higher state of cultivation, and consequently worth a still greater advance of rent.

Among the farms let under long leases, I must not omit to mention Tippetty, a farm consisting of nearly 500 acres, the property of Mr. Turner of Menie. This farm, about 12 years ago, was let for 57 years to a gentleman, who sold the lease in 1793. The lease was purchased at a public sale, by a gentleman from Angus, who has erected upon it a most excellent steading of offices, with a threshing machine, a meal mill, and barley mill, all driven by water, and is now carrying on the improvement of it with great spirit and judgment. In Summer 1795, he had nearly 100 acres of fallow, but the wetness of that season was very unfavourable to an undertaking of such magnitude, especially considering the ruggedness and wildness which he had to overcome. Last Summer he did not attempt so much, and has got his fallow field completely dressed and manured. I sincerely hope that this gentleman's spirited exertions will be crowned with success, for his own sake and the sake of the country in general.—What a pity it is that so many of our proprietors are so averse to granting long leases, and that our legislature will not do away that

that *curse of Scotland, that bane of improvement*, by which many gentlemen who have the inclination, are deprived of the power of improving their estates, and doing good to their country, I mean *entails*; were this the case, and could gentlemen be persuaded to let their estates on more liberal terms, we may venture to prognosticate, from the spirit which at present animates our farmers, that our country would soon put on a different appearance. Those large tracts of barren muirs, and bleak out-fields, which give it so gloomy an aspect, would soon be covered with crops of grain or pasture, and would be made to contribute to enrich individuals, and to the public good.

I shall only add, that the badness of our roads in general, and particularly to the port of Newburgh, from which we get our lime, and which is the general market for our grain, has hitherto been, and still is, a great obstruction to the improvement of this country; but, as a turnpike road from Aberdeen to Ellon is contracted for, and proposed to be carried on through Buchan, and an act of Parliament for commuting the statute labour is proposed, it is to be hoped that this evil, which is indeed one of the first magnitude, will soon be remedied.

No. LXVI. Page 505.

Parish of Leadhills.

Additional Communications respecting Leadhills, by the Rev. William Peterkin, Minister of Ecclesmachan, deceased.

With regard to Leadhills, the person most capable of giving the best and fullest information, would be Arch. Stirling, of Garden, Esq. agent for the Scotch Mine Company at

Leadhills, a worthy and well informed gentleman. By a register of the workings, it appears that the lead was discovered, in the bed of a small rivulet which runs through the village, in the year 1513, by one Martin Templeton, and that it was first wrought by Douglas of Parkhead. For many years the work was carried on in a very imperfect manner. In the beginning of the last century, Leadhills, or Waterhead, as it was then called, was the property of a gentleman, named James Foulis, who had two daughters: one of whom married Sir Thomas Hope, king's advocate, in the reign of Charles I.; the other married Baillie of Lamington. Sir Thomas Hope and his heirs became proprietors of Leadhills, in right of his lady.

The works have been carried on with various success, sometimes by the family of Hopeton, and sometimes by companies and individuals. At present they are set to the Scotch Mine and Leadhills Companies. The first is divided into 100 shares of L. 1000 each. The Company have a president, twelve directors, a secretary, and clerk. They keep an agent, two overseers, and two or three clerks at Leadhills, who transmit weekly to London an account of their whole procedure.

The external appearance of Leadhills is ugly beyond description: rock, short heath, and barren till. Every sort of vegetable is with difficulty raised, and seldom comes to perfection. Spring water there, is perhaps as fine as any in the world: but, the water below the smelting-milns, the most dangerous. The lead before smelting is broke very small and washed from extraneous matter. It contains frequently arsenic, sulphur, zinc, &c. which poisons the water in which it is washed. Fowls of any kind will not live many days at Leadhills. They pick up arsenical particles with their food, which soon kills them. Horses, cows, dogs, cats, are liable to

to the lead-brash. A cat, when seized with that distemper, springs like lightning through every corner of the house, falls into convulsions, and dies. A dog falls into strong convulsions also, but sometimes recovers. A cow grows perfectly mad in an instant, and must be immediately killed. Fortunately this distemper does not affect the human species.

About 30 years ago, most of the smelters died either madmen or idiots. Now they retain their senses as well as other people. The reason given is: formerly spirits were cheap, and the smelters partook liberally of them at their work. For many years past they drink nothing at their work, but pure spring water; they now live as long and as rationally as others.

The Leadhills library contains some trash, but as many valuable books as might be expected to be chosen by promiscuous readers. They are the best informed, and therefore the most reasonable common people that I know.

ADDITIONS TO VOLUME V.

No. XXXII. Page 446.

Parish of Ochiltree.

Correction (by the Rev. William Thomson) of a paragraph in the Statistical Account of Ochiltree, respecting the Public Roads, to be understood of the year 1793, in the beginning of which the Statistical Account thereof was published.

The valuation of the parish of Ochiltree is L. 5213 Scots, and therefore the statute money for repair of roads at 3d. per pound will be L. 65 : 3 : 3 sterl. besides what is collected from the inhabitants of the village at 3s. a family, those of paupers excepted.

The turnpike roads in the parish contain in length altogether $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles and 50 falls, (285 falls to a mile.)

The principal and most serviceable road in the parish is that from Cumnock to Ayr, which passes through the village of Ochiltree, in the middle of which is the toll-bar; and its length within the parish is $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles and 37 falls. L. 20 a year hath been allowed to a contractor for the repair of this road, for the length of 4 miles wanting 20 falls. As the remaining $\frac{1}{2}$ mile and 57 falls have been conjoined, as to repair with a part of the same road in the parish of Stair, the expence of its repair is not precisely known, but as the former part is through the wettest soil, and is therefore the

most

most difficult to be kept in repair, the expence of the latter part cannot exceed what is in proportion to the former, and may therefore be stated at L. 3 : 12.

Another turnpike road from Barskimming Bridge, passes through two corners of Ochiltree parish, on the N. W. and its length in the parish is 2 miles, wanting 44 falls. Concerning this road, which from being less frequented needs less repair, we have heard that only L. 10 was once expended on it, since it was made about 14 years ago. However, we will not omit to observe, that in this present year 1794, L. 3 hath been expended in the repairing of it.

Another turnpike road from Stair Bridge leading towards Dalmellington, and joining the last mentioned road, passes through three corners of Ochiltree parish, and its length in the parish is 2 miles and 57 falls. The parts of this road also which are in Ochiltree, are conjointly repaired with those which are in Stair; and though it is said that some of these parts have not received repair every year, and though in fact they do not need so much repair as the first road, yet we shall estimate the expence of their reparation according to the rate of the first road, at L. 11 : 4 annually.

The overplus of statute money or annual remainder, after the expence of foresaid repairs, it hath been thought by the parishioners of Ochiltree, should be laid out in repairing parish or cross roads, which are most wretchedly bad, and on which no statute money hath hitherto been expended. That such roads should be repaired by the statute money seems to be the opinion of Colonel Fullarton, who, in his *Georgical Account of Ayrshire*, says, (p. 39.) ‘ the turnpike roads are made and repaired by the produce of the tolls, and the cross roads by the statute labour of the different parishes.’ And in the act of Parliament concerning roads in Ayrshire, (p. 26.) it is said, ‘ The whole conversions

‘ conversions in money, or the statute services, (if exacted as
‘ herein before provided,) shall, in the discretion of the
‘ trustees, be solely applicable to the several roads men-
‘ tioned in this act, and in such proportions as they shall
‘ think proper, but only till such time as the toll levied
‘ thereon shall be sufficient to pay the interest of the money
‘ borrowed; or of the debts contracted for making such
‘ roads, and to keep the same in repair, and no longer; and
‘ so as that all the statute services, and all the money to be
‘ raised by the said conversion in each parish, shall be so ap-
‘ plied to the repairing such parts of the same roads passing
‘ through the same parishes as are within its bounds, and
‘ none other.’

But, as hitherto, not even the foresaid overplus of statute money hath been applied to parish or cross roads, the inhabitants of the parish of Ochiltree can only conclude that it has been applied to the reduction of the debts contracted for making the turnpike roads, and are thence encouraged to hope that part at least of the statute money will soon be applied to the repair of parish or cross roads; from the badness of which, at present conjoined with the exterior position of much of the turnpike roads, the inhabitants of Ochiltree parish, it must be acknowledged, suffer much in their mutual intercourse.

Finally, on this subject, we shall take notice of an objection, which, from having formerly heard it, we suspect may be renewed against the above statement, and we do so the rather, because we believe that the consideration of this objection may serve to throw light on the whole subject, and it is the following, viz. that the parishes of Ochiltree and Stair are but one parish. In answer, we observe, that said parishes were disjoined above a century ago, before there was any act for turnpike roads or statute money in this country. And
from

from the above quotation from the act of Parliament, it is evident that they cannot be legally conjoined as to making and repairing of roads. Such conjunction we have heard was always opposed by the late President of the Court of Session, although he possessed a very large property in Stair, and a very small one in Ochiltree.

No. XXXIV. Page 457.

Parish of Brechin.

By the Rev. John Bisset, minister of the first Charge.

Name and Etymology.—The city of Brechin is situated on the side of a small hill. After you enter the city from the north, you gradually descend all the way to the water of Southesk, which terminates the city and suburbs on the south. Thence Brechin probably receives its denomination; *Bru-aichbaun* signifying, in Gaelic, ‘the top of a declivity.’

From the east of Brechin, you have a delightful prospect of the bay of Montrose, and of the rich and fertile country which lies betwixt Montrose and Brechin, containing a space of about eight English miles. I am not certain but from this circumstance Brechin may have derived its name; *Breacbhair* signifying, in Gaelic, ‘a view of the frith.’ As etymologies are uncertain, it is of no moment to investigate, in the present case, which of these ought to have the preference, because both of them perfectly agree with the situation of the place.

Royalty, Streets, Buildings, &c.—Brechin is a royal borough, which, with Aberdeen, Bervie, Montrose and Arbuthnot, sends a member to Parliament. The royalty or liberties

berties of the borough, northward, begin at a small hill or eminence a short way from the entrance of the city, called the Gallowhill. It seems Brechin had been in former times the county town; or at least the sheriff had frequently held his courts here. As malefactors, convicted of crimes which fell under the cognizance of the sheriff, had been executed on this hill or eminence, it retains to this day the name of the Gallowhill.

There is a small rivulet or burn which rises to the west of Brechin, and runs directly eastward. Several houses and lands on the north side of this rivulet are within the royalty. This burn soon alters its direction, and runs southward through a large den, which is the property of the borough, and a common pasturage to the cows and cattle of the citizens in the summer season. It is commonly called the Den-burn. This small burn terminates the royalty on the east. No part of the royalty is situated on the east side of this burn, except a very few houses on what is called the Cadger-brac. The eastern extremity of the borough, known by the name of the Cadger-wynd, lies wholly on the west side of the burn. This wynd had formerly been inhabited by fishmongers, whose business it was to furnish the citizens of Brechin with a constant supply of fish from different parts of the coast. Hence probably it received its denomination.

The Den-burn, passing by the east end of the Cadger-wynd, runs a considerable way southward, till it falls into the Southesk, at what is called the Ford-mouth. The houses on the west side, all the way to the Ford-mouth, are within the royalty. Those on the other side belong to Southesk.

The whole length of the borough from north to south, that is, from the Gallowhill to the Ford-mouth, is nearly an English mile.

The royalty of Brechin, to the west, extends half an English

lish mile from the Cross. It consists of upwards of 70 acres of burghage land, besides many acres which have lately been converted into garden ground. The extent eastward, to the end of the Cadger-wynd, is far from being so large, consisting only of 20 acres.

The city is bounded, on the north, by the lands of Cookstown; on the east, partly by the lands of Caldhamie, and partly by the lands of Southesk; on the south, by the river Southesk, and the lands of Brechin Castle; and on the west, partly by the lands of Brechin Castle, and partly by the lands of Southesk.

The suburbs or entry to Brechin, from the east and south, consist of a row of houses independent of the borough, and built on ground held in feu from Sir David Carnegie of Southesk. They are called the tenements of Brechin; those on the east, the upper, and those on the south, the nether tenements.

At the end of the nether tenements, there is a convenient stone bridge over the river Southesk, of two large arches. The fords here are quite impassable in stormy weather; and the inhabitants here and in the neighbourhood, as well as all travellers, would be much incommoded, were it not for this bridge. It was repaired some years ago to great advantage. It is very remarkable that there is no record by whom, at whose expence, and at what time this useful and convenient bridge was erected; and there are no funds appropriated for its support: so that it must be repaired, when occasion requires, from the common money of the county.

The river Southesk takes its rise in the parish of Clova. Some miles from its source, it unites its stream with two rivers and a small rivulet. After this, it enters the parish of Brechin, and runs under the bridge at the end of the nether tenements, dividing the parish of Brechin into north and

fouth. From under the bridge, it continues its course directly eastward till it falls into the sea at Montrose. *Esk*, in Gaelic, signifies an eel; whence it is probable that this and other rivers of the same name in Scotland took their denomination, plainly alluding to their many turnings and windings.

Brechin is at no great distance from the harbour of Montrose, and the tide flows within two miles of our city. A canal would tend to increase our trade. It would be of service in conveying down the corn of the country for exportation; and it would be particularly useful to the citizens here for carrying their coals from Montrose to Brechin, the expence of carriage being very heavy on the poorer sort, who have no carts and horses of their own. Something of this kind, I understand, is at present in contemplation.

Brechin in former times had ports or gates at the different entries to the city. The places where they stood are well known. Some vestiges of them are extant; and the names of north, south and west port still remain.

Brechin, the city properly so called, consists of one large handsome street, extending from the north to the south port, and two others which are called wynds, the upper and neither west wynd.

Brechin was twice burnt. First by the Danes, about the year 1012, in the reign of Malcolm II. who had obtained a compleat victory over the Danes at Mortlich in Banffshire. This so irritated Sweno, the Danish king, that he ordered two fleets, one from England, and another from Norway, to make a descent upon Scotland, under the command of Camus, one of his most renowned generals. The Danes attempted to land at the mouth of the Forth; but finding every place there well fortified, they were obliged to move farther northward, and effected their purpose at the Red-head in the county of Angus,

Angus. They first attacked the castle of Brechin, and as they could make no impression upon it, they wrecked their vengeance by laying the city and church of Brechin in ashes.

In the month of March 1645, the Marquis of Montrose, once a zealous covenanter, and afterwards as zealous a royalist, came to Fettercairn in his return from the north, where he had, in contradiction to his late solemn engagements, been promoting the interests of the king. He was on his way to Brechin: and as a savage and brutal cruelty had always marked the procedure of that unhappy nobleman, both when a covenanter and a royalist, the citizens of Brechin, alarmed at his approach, left their houses and habitations, and deposited their effects in the castle and church. This so enraged the Marquis, that he allowed his soldiers to plunder the town, and in the height of their fury they burnt sixty houses to the ground. Some of these houses were to the north, but the most of them to the west. It seems, before this period, the houses and buildings here had extended mostly to the west.

There are at present very good houses both on the east and west side of the town.

In the year 1781, a very commodious Mason-Lodge was built by the society of Free-Masons in Brechin, at their own expence. Here the master and different members of that respectable fraternity hold their meetings, as occasions require.

In the year 1789, a very elegant town-house was built, with a secure and strong prison adjoining, at the expence of the town, assisted by liberal contributions from several gentlemen both in town and country.

A very commodious gardener's lodge was built in the year 1791; and some years ago several gentlemen have built, at the end of the west wynd, very elegant and commodious houses for the accommodation of themselves and families: so that the city of Brechin makes a finer and more magnificent

appearance to a stranger entering it from the west, than it did, or could do, many years before.

The streets, which had been remarkably rugged, were new laid and paved in the year 1781.

Brechin is remarkably well watered; a very happy circumstance. The waters from the wells or fountains in the lone of Cookstown, distant about half an English mile from the middle of the town, were, in the year 1767, conveyed into the town by means of leaden pipes. There are six wells in the town, and one at Brechin Castle; to all which the water is conveyed in the manner already mentioned. The expence of this conveyance amounted nearly to L. 600 sterling, which was generously complimented to the town by the late Earl of Panmure.

The revenue of Brechin arises from street and muir customs, flesh-market, feus from muirs and property within the borough, grafs of the common den, bleachfield and common mills, and entry of burgeses; and will amount, one year with another, to L. 200 sterling.

In the time of episcopacy, the bishop was the chief magistrate; and since that period, there is a provost, two bailies, a dean-of-guild, a treasurer and master of hospital. The council consists of thirteen members, these office-bearers included.

There is likewise a guildry, and eight incorporated trades, viz. hammermen, glovers, bakers, shoemakers, weavers, taylor, wrights and butchers. These trades have each of them a deacon of their own choosing: but the guildry have no choice of their own dean, this being absolutely in the power of the town-council.

In electing counsellors and magistrates, they proceed in the following manner. They meet on any lawful day within ten days preceding Michaelmas, for the purpose of electing counsellors

fellors and leeting magistrates. In this first election, the incorporated trades have nothing to say; but the deacons of the first six mentioned trades have a vote in choosing the provost and the two bailies, which must be done on, or before Michaelmas day, and two days after the day of election and leeting; at least there must be one day betwixt the two days. The convener of the trades is said to be a member of the town council, *ex officio*; and as he does not continue in his office of convener above three years, he must in consequence leave the council at the expiration of that period. But it is competent for the remaining twelve members of the council to choose themselves every year, if they think proper, as long as they live, which they commonly do; so that the town-council of Brechin is in the strictest sense of the word, self-elected. A degraded counsellor is a rare phenomenon here. For the space of 23 years bygone, I only recollect two instances of the kind. The corporations and several of the burghesses here, look upon this set or constitution of the borough as not founded in equity, and for this reason have joined with others in an application to Parliament for what is called the Borough Reform, in order to bring back the Royal Boroughs in Scotland to their original constitution, according to which the body of burghesses were to choose every year, the members of the town council.

Ecclesiastical State.—Brechin was a rich and antient bishoprick, founded about the year 1150 by David the I. surnamed the Saint, on account of his uncommon liberality to the church. The culdees had a convent here at that time. Their abbot Leod was witness to the grant made by King David to his new Abbey of Dunfermline: but where their convent stood I cannot say, nor do I find any mention of them in Brechin after this period.

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The Red Friars, called also Mathurins, and Trinity Friars, had convents in different parts of the kingdom. Keith in his account of the religious houses in Scotland is absolutely certain from antient charters and records, that they had a convent in Brechin, but where it stood, or by whom it was founded, he cannot say. Maitland in his History of Scotland conjectures, that the convent of the Mathurins or Trinity Friars here, was founded by David the I. who erected the bishoprick. The ruins of the abbey or convent, still called the College, are yet to be seen in the College or Chanonry Wynd, adjoining to the N. W. end of the grammar school, which was undoubtedly part of the said college, and probably its school; and that this college or convent was of large dimension, is evident from its vestigia, or remains, which appear in the neighbouring gardens.

At the Reformation, the rents and revenues of all ecclesiastical benefices were appointed to be given in to the Privy Council of Scotland. The revenue of the see of Brechin in the year 1562, according to the account then given, was as follows:—In money, L. 410:5 Scots; 138 capons, 208 fowls, 18 geese, one chalders and two bolls of corn for horses, three barrels of salmon; money in teinds, L. 24:6:8 Scots; teind wheat, 11 bolls; 14 chalders and 6 bolls of bear, and 25 chalders and 5 bolls of meal: a great revenue without all question.

At the time of the Reformation, Alexander Campbell, a son of the family of Arkinglafs, by the recommendation of the Earl of Argyle, got a grant of the bishopric of Brechin, while he was yet a boy, with a new and unheard-of power, to dispose of, at his pleasure, all the revenues, which belonged either to the spirituality or temporality of the benefice. Of this power he made a very liberal use, by alienating the most of the lands and tithes of the bishopric to his patron
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the Earl of Argyle: so that, from this period down to the Revolution, the revenue was among the smallest, if not the smallest, of any bishopric in Scotland.

In the time of Popery, bishops had both a civil and spiritual jurisdiction; and each of them had their official to judge in matters of tithes, marriages, orphans, and poor widows, and to confirm testaments. At the Reformation, commissaries were appointed in room of the officials; accordingly there is a commissariat in Brechin, the commissary being nominated by the king, who is come in place of the bishop.

It is not known by whom the cathedral church of Brechin was built. It is a Gothic pile supported by 12 pillars. The whole length, including the chancel, which is now demolished, is about 166 feet, and the breadth 61. The west end of one of the ailes is entire; the door is gothic, and the arch consists of many mouldings. It has a window of curious antique work; on the side of the wall there stood a statue of the Virgin Mary, the niche in which it stood still remains. The steeple is a handsome tower, 120 feet high. The four lower windows are in form of a long narrow opening. The belfry windows are adorned with that species of opening, called the quaterfoil, and the top battlemented, out of which rises a handsome spire.

The east part of the church, called the choir, or chancel, was destroyed at the Reformation, and without all doubt by the reformers themselves. It is to be observed, that, in the time of Popery, cathedral churches, however different in their size and dimensions, were all situated one way, and were all divided into the same general parts in imitation of different parts of the temple of Jerusalem. There was the vestibule, or entry to the church, answering to the court of the temple, the nave, or body of the church, answering to the sanctuary or holy place; and, the chancel, separated from the body of
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the church, by certain rails or lattices from which it took its name, answering to the *Sanctum Sanctorum*, or holy of holies. Here the altar stood, and here mass was said. Our Reformers, moved with a laudable zeal against the idolatries of the church of Rome, demolished that part of the cathedral, where the grossest acts of idolatrous worship had been performed, and spared the remainder, which is to this day the parish church.

The round tower, adjoining to the church, well known by the name of the little steeple of Brechin, is an object of attention and admiration to all strangers. It is hollow on the inside, and without a staircase, two handsome bells are placed in it, which are got at by means of ladders, placed on wooden semicircular floors, each resting on the circular abutments within side of the tower. It consists of sixty regular courses of hewn free stone, laid circularly and regularly, and tapering towards the top. It is covered at the top with a spiral roof. In this spire are four windows, placed alternate on the sides, resting on the top of the tower. Near the top of the tower are four others, facing the four cardinal points.

The perpendicular height of this famous tower or steeple, and all its dimensions within and without, have been so accurately described by Gordon in his *Itinerarium*, Pennant in his *Tour*, the authors of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, and others, that I have no occasion to mention them. On the outside is a crucifix, and below it the figure of two persons on each hand, intended, I make no doubt, to represent our Saviour on the cross, and the two thieves who were crucified along with him. It has been observed sometimes to vibrate with a high wind.

I am of the commonly received opinion, notwithstanding all that has been said of late to the contrary, that this famous tower or steeple is a Pictish monument. There is a tower or
steeples

steeple of the same form, though far inferior in size and dimensions, at Abernethy, formerly the seat of the Pictish kingdom. It is certain that Brechin, a city of great antiquity, was a part of that kingdom. When the church of Brechin was burnt down by the Danes in the reign of Malcolm II. in the manner already mentioned, this famous steeple was standing, and escaped the general conflagration. It is highly probable, that the church which was then burnt, and the steeple to which it adjoined, as the church does at present, were both of them built during the continuance of the Pictish kingdom.

It has been alledged that towers or steeples of this kind could not be intended for belfries, because they are placed near to churches, the steeples of which are provided with bells of their own. Those who make this objection should advert, that the fine sound of bells arises in great measure from their being rung together, or in concert. The large bell in the steeple of the church of Brechin is remarkably fine. It had suffered some hurt several years ago, and for that reason was cast anew; and it is universally agreed, that its sound at present is as melodious as formerly. When the large bell belonging to the church, and the two bells in the little steeple are ringing together, the sweet and melodious sound they produce cannot be exceeded by any bells in Scotland. A circumstance which every stranger passing through this city has had occasion to observe.

There belonged to cathedrals certain chapels and altarages, instituted for the devotions of the people, or for saying masses for the souls of their founders. There had been a chapel of this kind in the easternmost part of the country parish, which having been dedicated to Saint Magdalene, still retains the name of Magdalene Chapel. Here is a burial ground, which is still used for this purpose by several of the pa-

ishioners, it having been immemorially the place of interment for their ancestors.

There had been some chapels and altarages at Caldham, part of the country parish to the east of the town: of which some vestiges still remain. King James VI. in the year 1572, mortified to the town of Brechin, for the uses of their poor, all the revenues belonging to any chaplainry or altarage within the cathedral church of Brechin. But, in a declarator at the instance of the Laird of Findowrie, against the said town, for declaring the lands of the chapelry of Caldham to belong to him, as having right by progress from the chaplains of Caldham; the Lords declared in his favour, in regard he was infest upon the King's Confirmation Charter, before any infestment taken by the town upon their gift of mortification. Accordingly the heirs of Findowrie continued to possess the lands of Caldham, till they were purchased from them several years ago, by the late Earl of Panmure.

Brechin is a collegiate church; one parish under the care of two ministers. The east part of the town, and the east and north parts of the country parish, with the upper and nether tenements, are called the first charge. The west part of the town, the upper and nether west wynds, and the whole country parish to the west and south, are called the second charge. When a minister dies, or is translated, his successor is admitted to the charge he had, whether it be the first or second. The patronage of both is in the gift of the crown.

The ministers in the first charge were the immediate successors of the bishop, after the year 1690, when Episcopacy was abolished, and Presbyterian government established in Scotland. Mr. Willison, afterwards minister at Dundee, was the first. He was succeeded by Mr. Gray, who had been minister at Cabrach, was translated to Ed-
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zel, and after that to the first charge in Brechin. He was succeeded by Mr. David Blair, who had been minister at Lochlee, was translated to the second, and after that to the first charge in Brechin. He was succeeded by the present incumbent Mr. John Bisset, who had been minister at Culsalmond, and was admitted minister of the first charge in Brechin on the 9th of November 1769.

His stipend consisted at first of 85 bolls, 2 firlots, 2 lippies of meal, 40 bolls 2 firlots of bear, and 3 bolls 2 firlots of wheat, and L. 47:2:5 sterl. of money. It is to be observed, that the bishop's house and three gardens, which had belonged to the bishop, were allocated to the minister of the first charge, by two different decreets of the Court of Teinds, one in the year 1702, and the other in the year 1718, in lieu of L. 3:6:8 sterl. of the above mentioned stipend.

In consequence of the suppression of the parish of Kinnaird and the annexation of part of it to the parish of Brechin, the minister of the first charge has enjoyed for three years past L. 11:1:1½ sterling of additional stipend. The church of Kinnaird originally belonged to Brechin. It was disjoined from it in the year 1597, and erected in a separate parsonage; and the patronage disposed to Sir David Carnegie.

The bishop's house was habitable at the Revolution, and was actually possessed and inhabited by Messrs. Willison, Gray and Blair for some time. In Mr. Blair's time it became uninhabitable, in consequence of which, he built a house of his own. In the year 1770, the Barons of Exchequer, on an application from the magistrates and town council of Brechin, granted the sum of L. 250 sterl. for repairing the bishop's house. The magistrates of Brechin, to whom the management of the money was intrusted, finding the bishop's house irreparable, laid out the money in building a new house, a

few yards distant from the stance of the old house, which the present incumbent possesses and inhabits.

The part of the country parish which belongs to the first charge, extends from the town eastward about three English miles, and about two English miles northward; it goes no farther south than the extremity of the nether tenement at the bridge over the Southesk. It is bounded on the north by the parish of Strickathrow, on the east by the parish of Dun, and on the south by the parish of Marytoun, and part of the second charge.

Population.—The number of people in the east side of the town, and in the upper and nether tenements, counting the names from seven years of age and upwards, at which time they are entered on the catechising rolls, and including all the different religious denominations, amount to 1500. The number of people in the north and east side of the country parish, amount fully to 500.

We have no Papists, Independents, or Anabaptists, in any part of the town or parish of Brechin. There will be nearly of examinable persons 243 Antiburgher Seceders. They have one minister, his stipend L. 60 sterling. His parishioners, in the year 1790, built him a commodious house. He has a garden adjoining to his house; and his chapel, or meeting house, was of late very elegantly repaired. There will be of qualified Episcopalians about 500; one clergyman, his stipend L. 50 sterling, with a neat house, garden, and office houses. There are a few also of those Episcopalians, formerly called Nonjurants. Their ministers at present pray for King George and the royal family; and they are likewise obliged by a late act of Parliament, in order to enjoy the benefit of the toleration, to take the usual oaths to government, and subscribe the 39 articles of the Church of England. A Method-
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ist meeting house was built last Summer on the east side of the town. The methodists have as yet been joined by very few, and as they had a footing here so very lately, I cannot pretend to ascertain their numbers.

Schools.—There has been immemorially a respectable school at Brechin, consisting of a rector and a doctor.

The rector has a salary of L. 8:6:8 sterling, paid from the town's revenue, and besides is preceptor of *Maison Dieu*.

To understand this matter fully, it must be observed, that, in the times of Popery, hospitals instituted for the maintenance of the poor, or the education of youth, as being of peculiar usefulness to mankind, were honoured by the distinguishing epithet of *Maisons de Dieu*, signifying, in French, ' Houses of God.' There were houses of this denomination in different parts of Scotland. One of this kind was founded in Brechin, as nearly as I can learn, in the year 1256, by William of Brechin, son of Henry of Brechin, and grandson to Earl David, for the benefit of the souls of William and Alexander, kings of Scotland, John, Earl of Chester and Huntington, his brother, Henry, his father, and Juliana, his mother. To his charter of foundation the subscribing witnesses are, Albin, bishop of Brechin, and Robert de Monte Alto. The original is inserted in a confirmation charter of James the Third in the year 1477. It was situated in a venal or lane in the upper end of the town, on the west side of the street. The south wall of the chapel is still standing pretty entire; and the house of the preceptor, who was the head of this religious foundation, was inhabited in the memory of some persons still alive, but is now quite demolished.

Here I am under the necessity of making a digression to the honour of the antient and famous city of Brechin. Brechin gave name to the first nobility of Scotland, and ma-

ny of the royal family were called Lords of Brechin. King James the Third's second son, Alexander, was, in 1480, created Lord Brechin and Navar; a title which was afterwards conferred upon the Maules of Panmure. David, 4th Lord of Brechin, was in 1321 executed for high treason. Umfraville, brother of the Earl of Angus, the most antient title in Scotland, was so disgusted at the execution, that, after giving David a decent burial, he repaired to King Robert Bruce, and begged he might be allowed to sell his lands and retire out of Scotland, as he could not live in a land where such a man as David Lord Brechin had suffered an ignominious death. This David was called The Flower of Chivalry.

The castle of Brechin was built on a little eminence south of the town, but no vestige of it is left. It underwent a long siege in the year 1303; was gallantly defended against the English under Edward I.; and notwithstanding all the efforts of that potent prince, the brave governor, Thomas Maule, held out this small fortress for twenty days, till he was slain by a stone cast from an engine on the 20th of August, when the place was instantly surrendered. Patrick Maule, descendant of the governor, was, in 1646, created Lord Maule of Brechin and Navar, and Earl of Panmure.

His family were patrons of the preceptory of Maison Dieu, which had for many ages been conferred on the schoolmaster of Brechin. A full fourth part of the town holds feu of the preceptor of Maison Dieu, who grants charters to his vassals; and, before the rebellion in 1715, these were granted with the consent of the Earl of Panmure the patron, many of which are still extant. Upon the forfeiture of the Panmure family in 1715, the right was vested in the crown, who, in case of vacancy, never fails to present to the preceptorship of Maison Dieu the person recommended by the magistrates and town-council.

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The income of the schoolmaster, as preceptor of *Maison Dieu*, consists of gardens, rents, feu-duties from tenements within the town and from some farms in the country, amounting to L.8:18:7½ sterling, besides 17½ bolls of meal yearly. As superior of these lands, he is likewise entitled to the casualties payable to vassals at entry; but the amount of these I cannot exactly ascertain: and to all this must be added the school dues.

The doctor has a salary of L.3:6:8 sterling from the town. He is always session-clerk; for which he has a salary of L.6:13:4 sterling from the kirk-session, besides the school dues and perquisites of his office as session-clerk.

The rector and doctor taught formerly together in one school; but for several years past they have taught in different schools, which are under the same roof, and separated by a partition wall.

The rector or master is restricted, by an act of the town-council, to the teaching Latin, and the doctor to the teaching English, writing, arithmetic and book-keeping.

Poor, and Poor's Funds.—There is a considerable number of poor in the town and parish of Brechin. Some of them have weekly or monthly pensions, suited to their particular exigencies. Others of them receive occasional charity, in consequence of precepts drawn by one or other of the ministers upon the kirk-treasurer. The funds for their maintenance are as yet very sufficient, and are,

Money lent on bond	-	-	L. 295	11	0
Feu-duties, per annum	-	-	1	15	0
Weekly collections, at an average	-	-	0	10	0
On occasion of the Sacrament, which is regularly dispensed once a-year, L.12 or L.13 sterling.					

There has been a great influx of people into the town and tenements

tenements of late years, in consequence of the increase of trade and manufactures; and as the number of people increases, no doubt the number of poor will, at the same time, through the various accidents of human life, increase proportionally. It is however to be expected, that the collections at the church doors will increase in the same proportion; and therefore, if the poor's funds here are properly secured and preserved, there is not the most distant prospect, that there will ever be occasion or necessity for a legal assessment.

Markets, Trade and Manufactures.—There is a constant traffic of horses and cattle at Brechin through a great part of the year. Trinity Fair, so denominated from Trinity Muir, a little to the north of the town, where it is held, begins on the second Wednesday of June, and continues three days successively. On Wednesday there is a sheep market, on Thursday a cattle market, and on Friday the finest horse market in the north of Scotland. There is a market of the same kind in the month of August, on the same muir, which, from the time of the year in which it is held, is called Lammas Fair: but it is in every respect inferior to the former. A cattle market begins on the first Tuesday after Michaelmas, and continues every Tuesday for six weeks after Martinmas. A horse market begins on the last Tuesday of February, on the public street, and is continued every Tuesday for six weeks successively. The weekly market in Brechin is on Tuesday. There is as good butcher meat here of every kind, beef, mutton, lamb, veal, pork and kid, as in any town in Scotland. One may likewise be provided with butcher meat on the Thursday. The butchers here kill their beasts on Thursday, and carry the flesh to Montrose on Friday, which is the weekly market there.

There are four extraordinary markets in Brechin every year,

year, which are called great Tuesdays, or muckle markets; one on the first Tuesday after Martinmas, another on Palm Tuesday, the third on the first Tuesday after Trinity fair, and the fourth on the first Tuesday after Lammass fair. These are foot markets, standing on the public street, which is at that time crowded with merchants' stands, exposing for sale many different commodities. This occasions a vast resort of people from the neighbouring parishes, expecting to purchase a variety of articles from the stands or tents of the chapmen at a cheaper rate than from the merchants' shops.

There is a salmon fishing on the Southesk, the property of the Hon. William Maule of Panmure. It is rented at present at L. 15 a-year; and the average sale, as I am informed, will be from L. 60 to L. 100.

In the year 1785, a brewery was erected at the end of the nether tenements, near the bridge, with every apparatus necessary for the purpose. It has been very successful; furnishing ale and beer, not only to the people of Brechin, but to all the neighbouring parishes, some of them at a considerable distance.

In the year 1786, a distillery was erected at the north port, for distilling spirits from malt. The whisky, or aquavita, distilled here, is remarkably fine, and greatly run after, not only by the people here, but by the whole country round. Their yearly profits, I presume, are very considerable: but from any information I have as yet received, I am not able to ascertain them.

A distillery of the same kind was set a-going very lately at the east end of the Cadger-wynd, and promises to do well.

The yarn and the coarse linen, commonly called Ofnaburgs, is a branch of trade in which most of our merchants are at present engaged.

A cotton manufactory was established here in March 1786.

Commodious houses were built, and very curious machinery, every way proper for the purpose, was provided. It was given up in September 1790. It recommenced in April 1792: 100 hands, at an average, were employed in this manufactory from the year 1786 to 1790; and 80, at least, are employed at present. It is under the management of John Smith, Esq. present provost of Brechin, and Colin Gillies, Esq. merchant here: two of our most substantial merchants, and both of them distinguished by prudence, industry and unwearied attention to every branch of trade in which they happen to be engaged.

It is needless to mention the commodities retailed in the shops, as they are well known. One thing however must be noticed, that there is a greater number of shopkeepers in Brechin at present than was ever known at any former period, owing to the great increase of people, which occasions a greater demand for shop commodities.

Soil, Produce and Agriculture.—The lands around Brechin are in general very good. There is not much wheat sown here. It is commonly sown in September or October, and from 3 firlots to 14 pecks an acre, and produces very often from 10 to 12 bolls per acre; is for ordinary ready to be cut down about the middle of August. Barley sown in April will be ready to be cut down with the wheat, and commonly produces about 10 bolls per acre. The crops of oats have not been so good within these twelve years past: they produce, at an average, from 6 to 8 bolls per acre. There is a good deal of pease sown in the parish; and, after the pease, barley, with grass seeds, 12 pounds of clover and 2 bushels of rye-grass for an acre: and if cut the first year, they will commonly produce from 200 to 300 stones of hay, which sells, at a medium, from 4d. to 6d. per stone.

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The farmers here sow turnips, with which they fatten their cattle in winter. The inclosing with stone dykes goes on very rapidly; and in a few years the farmers will be enabled to fatten their cattle in summer. Some of our farmers who have inclosed fields, set them from 40s. to 50s. per acre.

Sir David Carnegie's tenants, who compose the greatest part of the country parish under the first charge, have good farm steadings, and are well lodged. Most of the leases were of late renewed, and the rents considerably raised: but still they have very good bargains. Little of their land is set above 15s. per acre; whereas other gentlemen, in this and the neighbouring parishes, have set their lands from 20s. to 30s. per acre. The tenants here are, generally speaking, good farmers, well acquainted with the proper methods of cultivation; and many of them are very substantial, so that they can afford to lay out a good deal of money in improving their farms: and there is every chance in the world, that what they have laid out, or may lay out, to this effect, will, in process of time, be repaid to great advantage.

Antiquities, and the Riding of the Muir.—There are the remains of a Danish camp near Keithoc, a part of the country parish northward. This camp lies west of the Battle-Dykes: the road leading from Brechin to the Grampian Hills passes through the middle of it. It is in the form of an oblong square. Its circumference is about one fourth of an English mile, that is to say, what is visible above ground. In the midst of this encampment is a well of water, generally known by the name of the Camp Well, and a mount, on the south side, about 8 or 10 feet high, and about 40 feet in circumference at the base. But from the best information I can learn, its original length was about one half of a Scots mile; the one point beginning at the north end of the Ward of Keithoc, going

in a straight line south-west, and terminating at the Law of Keithoc, immediately at the top of the hill, and on the road leading from Brechin to Aberdeen. The Law of Keithoc is about 20 feet high above the surface of the ground, and about or 45 feet broad at the base, carried up or built in a round form, and gradually smaller towards the top. To the south-west of this camp, was a chapel, or temple, which is now ploughed down; and a large piece of land adjacent to this temple is still called the Temple or Kirk Shade.

At the time of Trinity and Lammas fairs, the youngest baillie of Brechin, with a select company, goes on horseback to the North-water Bridge, which is about 5 measured miles from the market, in order to prevent fore-stalling; as no cattle, horses or sheep can be sold within that distance without being liable to the usual customs. At the same time, the whole citizens proceed on foot with great pomp and solemnity, drums beating, pipes playing and colours flying, to the Law of Keithoc, alias the Hare-Cairn, which is about midway between Brechin and the North-water Bridge. In the days of club-law, the baillie of Brechin, and his company, often met with resistance in the execution of their office. For this reason, the citizens proceeded the length of the Law of Keithoc, or Hare-Cairn, in order to assist them, if there should be occasion for it, in preserving and maintaining the immemorial rights and privileges of the market, and this they were to do on the shortest notice. In these civilized times, no violence is offered: the old custom, however, is still kept up.

Learned Men who have been born, or resided in Brechin.—

In the times of popery, any measure of learning in the kingdom was mostly to be found among the clerical order. Hence clergymen were promoted to the highest civil offices; few of
other

other denominations being sufficiently qualified, at that period, to fill those important stations.

Patrick de Leuchars, descended of an ancient family in the shire of Fife, was invested in the see of Brechin in the year 1354, and some time after was made Lord High Chancellor of the kingdom.

George Shorefwood, of the family of Bedshiel in the shire of Berwick, was promoted to the bishopric of Brechin in the year 1454: he was also Royal Secretary, and last of all became Lord High Chancellor.

John Sinclair, a son of the house of Roslin, a man well learned in both laws, was dean of Restalrig, near Edinburgh, and put into the see of Brechin by Queen Mary. He was likewise, for his singular knowledge of the law, first an ordinary Lord of Session, and then Lord President. He joined Queen Mary in marriage to Lord Darnley.

William Maitland, F. R. S. who published a history of London in one folio volume, and also a history of Scotland in two folios, was a native of Brechin. Some of his relations are still alive. He had studied the history of his own country with the utmost care and attention; and as he had occasion to travel through a great part of it, he describes all its antiquities, which happened to fall under his personal observation, with an uncommon degree of accuracy and precision.

Mr. Norman Sievewright, late minister of the qualified episcopal chapel here, finished, in the year 1764, what he calls, 'The Hebrew Text considered; being observations on the novelty and self-inconsistency of the masoretic scheme of pointing the sacred Hebrew scriptures.' He had written a grammar in order to shew, that the Hebrew may be taught and learned without having recourse to, or making any use of the vowel points. It was never published: the manuscript, however, is still extant. The opinions of the learned are
different

different on this subject. Mr. Sievwright has advanced no new argument against the antiquity of the vowel points. His publication, however, discovers him to have studied the Hebrew with great care, and to have been no small proficient in that branch of literature.

John Gillies, LL.D. F.R.S. & S.A. son of the deceased Robert Gillies, late merchant here, is the brightest literary ornament of Brechin. His translation of the orations of Lyfias and Isocrates from the Greek, with his introductory discourse on the history, manners and character of the Greeks from the conclusion of the Peloponnesian war to the battle of Chæronæa, his first publication, procured him no small degree of literary fame. It pointed him out as a thorough Greek scholar; which I have ever considered as the foundation of all real literature. His history of Greece is the completest and exactest of the kind which has yet appeared. His view of the reign of the late king of Prussia, and his parallel betwixt that prince and Philip the Second of Macedon, discovers Dr. Gillies to have investigated the principles, genius and constitution of the antient states of Greece, and the modern governments of Europe, with an equal degree of attention and accuracy. He makes a considerable figure in the republic of letters, and does honour to the city which gave him birth.

Mr. William Guthrie, once minister of Finwick, was born in the parish of Brechin. He was eldest son of the laird of Pitforthie; and resigned his paternal estate in favour of another brother, that he might be at more leisure to prosecute the functions of the sacred office. Mr. Guthrie had a sufficient measure of learning; but was peculiarly eminent for his piety, and his fervent, indefatigable zeal in promoting the interests of Christianity. He wrote a little treatise, entitled, ‘The Trial of a Saving Interest in Christ.’ This little treatise, however much it may be despised in an age of atheism
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and infidelity, was highly esteemed at the time it was published. It was translated into German, Dutch and French; and was circulated with amazing rapidity through all the Protestant churches abroad. It was translated, if my information be right, into one of the eastern languages, at the expence of the Hon. Robert Boyle, a promoter both of piety and learning. Dr. Owen, a divine of the last century, of extraordinary erudition, said of this little treatise, 'It is my vade-mecum: I carry it and the Sedan New Testament still about with me. I have written several folios, but there is more divinity in this than in them all.'

Ravages of the Plague.—In the year 1647, the plague made prodigious havock in Brechin. Six hundred persons died of the infection in the space of a few months. The most of them were buried in the little church-yard opposite to the porch door of the church; and the graves have not been opened to this day. A part of them were buried in the large church-yard; and the graves there were opened, about 26 years ago, with no small apprehension of danger: however, through the goodness of Providence, no bad consequence ensued. The following inscription, on a monument in the little kirk-yard, sufficiently verifies the present narrative.—

1647.

Luna quater crescens

Sexcentos peste peremptos;

(Disce mori!) vidit.

Pulvis et umbra sumus.

SIR,

SIR,

In perusing the Statistical Account of the parish of Brechin, I was astonished to find an assertion in my father's name, relating to the circular tower in that city, which, as it can hardly gain belief, even from the most credulous, is likely to bring reproach either on his understanding or veracity, or on both; and which, as equally false and impossible to have been affirmed by him, I must request that you will do him the justice to have cancelled or contradicted in as public a manner as it has been circulated. He was not capable of saying, that the tower in question, 'is said to bend like a willow 'in high winds, so as almost to touch the steeple;' nay, he assures me, that though many people have asserted its vibration, and he was at pains to examine that circumstance often and most attentively in some of the most violent gusts of wind, he never yet perceived it; and he is positive that such was the account he transmitted in his correspondence with you. I am inclined, therefore, to believe that it must have been in your absence, and through the inattention of those whom you employed at Edinburgh, that such a misrepresentation has crept into the press; or, perhaps the compiler has been misled by the account of that matter in Pennant's Tour, though, if I rightly recollect, what Mr. Pennant says is far from being so unlikely and incredible as the language of the Statistical Work; at any rate, it is not Mr. Pennant's, but Mr. Bruce's Account which it professes to exhibit to the public.

I am

I am forry I should have occasion to trouble Sir John Sinclair on such a subject, but I feel it to be my duty; and I trust he will pay attention to it, as a just tribute of filial respect to a father's good name, and an expression of proper concern that the important work which owes its being to Sir John's patriotic exertions may be the vehicle only of truth.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient,

and humble Servant,

FORFAR, }
25. Dec. 1794. }

JOHN BRUCE.

To Sir John Sinclair, Baronet.

ADDITIONS TO VOLUME VI.

No. I. Page 1.

Parish of Frazerburgh.

Correction by the Rev. Alexander Simpson.

There is one inaccuracy, which I beg leave to take notice of. In the note, page 8th, the mosses are spoken of as almost exhausted; yet it is immediately added, that it would be highly beneficial to the people residing on the coast, if some persons would make it their employment to prepare peats in these mosses, and bring them down for sale; whereas, in the account sent to Sir John Sinclair, after mentioning the mosses in the parish of Frazerburgh as almost exhausted, I said, ‘that about 7 miles from the coast, through all Buchan, there is a continuation of almost inexhaustible mosses. ‘Were the practice introduced of preparing peats in these ‘mosses, by persons who, &c.’ The inaccuracy, which has happened through the hurry in preparing for the press, I hope you will be so good as cause be rectified in a note subjoined to some future volume.

No.

No. VI. Page 55.

Parish of Kincardine-O'Neal.

Additional Communications from the Rev. William Morrice.

In my Statistical Account of Kincardine-O'Neal, no notice was taken of the improvements in agriculture in the parish, or of the parochial school. I have been induced, at the request of some friends to your useful publication, to trouble you with a few remarks on these subjects.

The alterations in agriculture may be said to have commenced here about 24 years ago. Little, I believe, was done before that time in the way of inclosing, cleaning, and green crops; and much yet remains to be done in the farming line. Things are, however, taking some turn, and the spirit of improvement begins to appear. Even our crofters have now their little spots of potatoes, turnips, sown grass and flax; though the latter is more rarely to be seen. They now see the advantage of letting their turnips remain in the fields through the winter, that they may have the use of them in the spring; though they are a little exposed to the depredations of straggling beasts, winter herding being as yet little known.

But our great improvers are the residing heritors. Allow me, in as short a manner as I can, to take some notice of what they have done. Mr. William Brebner of Lairney, who, in his younger days, had been very successful in the mercantile line at Aberdeen, in the year 1767, made a purchase in this parish of a considerable extent of ground, but hilly, and much neglected. His settlement here was of considerable advantage to the place in several respects. As there was no mansion house nor any leases on the estate, he was

the more at liberty to make choice of any spot of ground he thought proper to build upon. The place he selected has many natural advantages, though it must, I think, be owned that it has its inconveniencies. It lies at the foot of a steep hill, which bends at that place in form of a crescent. By this hill, it is screened from the northerly and easterly piercing blasts and storms, and from the high westerly winds, and receives the advantage of the reflection of the sun's rays. It has plenty of good water. The prospect to the south is open and considerably extended; it takes in the most of his own farms, the lands of Craigmile, &c. and is only bounded by the Grampian Hills, which lie at the distance of 6 computed miles. The house now built is large, substantial and beautiful. The office-houses are numerous, well contrived, and at a proper distance from the mansion house. The garden on the south is on a sloping ground; consists of about 3 acres; is well laid out, stocked, and kept in good order. A pond of water below the garden, westward, adds to the agreeable prospect from the large south windows. But the farm was what I chiefly intended to take notice of—besides the yet barren ground and planting, it consists of 100 acres at least, well cleaned, inclosed with stone walls, regularly divided, most of it well watered and adorned with planting on the sides of the dykes, and some clumps of firs on the south end westward. It may be observed, that the farm lying on a sloping ground, the waters when brought into the inclosures naturally sink off to the rivulet that runs at the foot of it, and do not stagnate on the lands. How pleasant is it to compare the place with what it formerly was, when the most of the ground was covered with heath and stones, and only L. 12 of yearly rent with great difficulty paid by the tenant! At present, the farm, besides the house, garden and plantations, and what the crofters on the east and west possess, for
which

which they pay L. 16, is computed to be worth L. 100 yearly. Instead of heath and stones, we now see good crops of barley, oats, turnip, potatoes, kail, &c. Where formerly a few beasts of prey or birds lodged, many human creatures may be supported. The hill is now planted, and has two pleasant walks; and the firs begin already to repay part of the trouble and expence laid out. The whole planting on the estate, all done by the present heritor, is not below 400 acres. Mr. Brebner has not altogether confined his attention to the farm in his own hands, but extended it over several parts of his estate. Having plenty of excellent stones, he has built at his own expence some good farm houses to his tenants; and encouraged them to inclose, clean their grounds, and lay down green crops. The good effects of this laudable conduct begin already to appear. The rents, which have encreased here as in other places, are punctually paid; and the tenants, who only can improve the country in an extensive manner, are exerting themselves in seconding the wishes and views of their good master. One of them, Robert Meston, has this year gained the farmer's prize. These prizes are premiums offered by gentlemen in the neighbourhood, (who have associated themselves in a club to encourage agriculture,) for the best acre of rye grass and red clover after turnip. I cannot help doing justice to this gentleman by adding, that having plenty of moss grounds, he has gotten about 20 new crofters to settle near them. These are improving pieces of barren ground around their habitations; and are frequently employed by him on his own farm. As much yet remains to be done on the estate, and Mr. Brebner is an old man, it were much to be wished that his son and successor would reside at Lairney, to prevent the new improved lands from putting on their original and long continued cover; carry on the improvements; and, as he is well able, imitate his father in doing good to
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the parish and neighbourhood, by his advice and example. For it ought not to be forgotten that his father did much good here, and in other parishes, after the bad crop and great scarcity in 1782, by importing grain and saving the lives of hundreds.

Nor have the other residing heritors been wanting in their exertions in the improving line. Mr. Gordon of Craigmile, and Mr. Strachan of Campfield, have dressed up their own farms, cleared them of stones, and other incumbrances, squared, inclosed, and subdivided the fields, and straightened the ridges; and not only improved them much in appearance, but also in value. They are perhaps worth double what they were 20 years ago.

Mr. Grant of Kincardine, a gentleman who had realised a considerable property in the West Indies, and who settled here about 13 or 14 years ago, has made out from moor and outfield grounds (generally so called) a farm of 30 or 40 acres, inclosed and subdivided it; and, instead of L. 15, its original rent, by the addition of some hundred bolls of lime, it is thought the farm might be made worth L. 50. Mr. Grant has also made out, and inclosed with stone and lime walls, a good garden, and built a commodious and neat mansion house on the farm. And the whole is sheltered and adorned with upwards of 300 acres of very thriving plantation.

The situation of the farm and policies, which looks down upon the village of Kincardine-O'Neal, and commands a most extensive and picturesque view up the river Dee, and towards the Grampians, adds much to the beauty of the place.

There is an annual fair, called Barthol-Fair, held on this gentleman's grounds in the beginning of September, at which several thousands of black cattle are exposed to sale; and the whole

whole customs of the market, it is said, considerably exceed L. 20.

There is a regular parochial school in this parish; but, like many others, the salary is by far too small to afford encouragement to a qualified teacher—the salary and emoluments not exceeding L. 12. Owing to its not being central, about two thirds of the parish can derive no benefit from it. Till about a dozen years ago, the distant parts of the parish had the advantage of a charity school, paid by the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge; but were deprived of it, as was said, because regular attendance was not given to the parochial school. There is now a qualified teacher settled, and regular attention given; and it were much to be wished, that the Society would again indulge this parish with a charity schoolmaster. Perhaps a small portion of their now extensive funds could not be better applied; and I have reason to believe that the necessary accommodations would most cheerfully be made for his reception.

No. VIII. Page 62.

Parish of Foveran.

Additional Communications from the Rev. William Duff.

Of the very considerable depopulation in this parish since the date of my admission in 1775, I have in the report sent you last year assigned the causes. Of the surprizing difference in the population, in the earliest period I have taken notice of in the inclosed paper, compared with the present, I cannot pretend so clearly to explain the reasons; though I think it highly probable that the number and moderate size of the farms in the first period, must have been the principal cause of the great superiority

superiority in the numbers of the people. Large farms, under the usual plan of management in this country, are, I am convinced, at present, whatever may afterwards happen, unfavourable to population; manufactures too, though doubtless a source of great emolument to individuals, as well as of national wealth, prove a kind of drain which draw from the country, for several miles around those towns where they are established, not only the superfluous hands, but many others who would otherwise be employed in the more salutary labours of the field. It is true indeed that the numbers in flourishing cities and towns will increase in proportion as those in the neighbouring parishes decrease. But agriculture, whether considered in a moral or political light, will always be found to deserve the peculiar attention of the legislature, whilst manufactures may for the most part be trusted to the manufacturers themselves; especially as the former is the more favourable of the two to the propagation of a hardy and virtuous race. But I check my reasoning on this subject, into which I have been led from my observation of the effects of manufactures on the operations of the husbandman in the parish, both by alluring too many farm servants from their proper work, the cultivation of the fields, and raising their wages beyond their just proportion; an inconvenience which has been of late very sensibly and heavily felt by the farmer, who is at present obliged to pay more than double the wages he paid 20 years ago.

Your respectful treatment, Sir, of the clergy, and your patriotic views and exertions for the good of your country, ought undoubtedly to have procured reports of the state of their several parishes before this time; but I need not suggest to you, Sir, how difficult it is to excite even the most moderate degree of energy in every individual of a large class of men, whose indolence will in many cases preponderate
over.

over motives of the greatest moment. I hope, however, that the hint you have thrown out in your last address to them, perfectly intelligible, though at the same time sufficiently delicate, will produce the desired effect.

P. S. I can find no list of the number of the parishioners in the periods of which I have taken notice; but the number of births and burials, compared with those mentioned in my report, will give a pretty just idea in general, of the very great difference there must have been betwixt the population of the present and former times.

The stipend of Foveran has been augmented this year (1793) by the Lords Commissioners for the plantation of kirks and valuation of teinds, and by their Lordships' decret consists of 96 bolls of meal, 48 of bear, and about L. 30 sterling in money.

No. XI. Page 80.

Parish of Maryculter.

Additional Communications from the Rev. John Glennie.

Population Table of the Parish of Maryculter.

The present incumbent, was admitted minister of this parish in 1763, and visiting the parish that year, he ingrossed in his roll, not only the farm-houses and cottages, (which he afterwards continued to do,) but all the souls then in the parish.

There were	1763	1773	1783	1792
Farm houses and cottages	190	163	168	156
Married persons - - -	318	272	256	234
Widowers and widows - -	20	28	40	32
Batchelors - - - -	4	5	7	4
Aged unmarried women - -	27	21	21	15
Male servants - - - -	39	30	31	28
Female servants - - - -	26	23	35	42
Children in their parents houses	394			
Children 8 years old and upwards		259	201	244
Children under 8 years by computation		128	120	120
Total	828	766	711	719

Causes of the decrease of depopulation are chiefly these—
1st, the dearth and scarcity of fuel in the upper or west-
 most, being the largest part of the parish; *2^d*, the increasing
 wages of farm servants; *3^d*, the daily work for labouring
 men in and about Aberdeen, especially the linen and cotton
 manufactures there, which employ men, women and children
 throughout the year; *4th*, some young men go to sea.

No. XVIII. Page 121.

Parish of Monquhitter.

Additional Communications from the Rev. A. Johnstone.

Perhaps it may be agreeable to the succeeding age to receive a more particular account of our forefathers than has as yet been given, and to observe how rapidly the current century has advanced refinement in every rank. Circumstances, which at present are universally known, will, when oral tradition

dition ceases, become objects of curiosity. The following attempt, to delineate some prominent features in the character and conduct of our fathers, may, as prudence shall direct, be appointed to meet the public eye, or to rest in oblivion.

Wadset.—Before commercial credit multiplied the signs of wealth, money being of great value, the money lender had it frequently in his power to make his own terms. The rich farmer seldom opened the chest containing his hoard to any, but to a proprietor of land, who commonly assigned as his security one or more farms, rent free, until the money borrowed by him should be repaid. This was called a wadset. Numbers of these existed in this parish and county, but are now universally redeemed.

Agriculture.—The arable part of most farms was divided into intown, fold, and burnt land. The intown (a third of which being by rotation annually in bear) was always cropped for grain. A part of folding ground, enriched by the dung of sheep and of cattle, penned thereon in Summer, during the night and heat of the day, or fauched, (a kind of bastard fallow), and manured by a little compost dung, bore three, four, or five crops, and then, according to the quality of the ground, was allowed to rest four, five or six years. The burnt land was pared by the plough, and the parings, collected in heaps and reduced to ashes, were spread upon the field, by which rich crops were for a long time produced on hill and dale. When the repetition of this practice reduced the soil upon the hills, the ridge was frequently gathered; and the furrow, thereby gradually enlarged, obtained the name of a *balk*, for the most part equalling, and not seldom exceeding the size of the ridge. By this absurd practice, a great part of

Monquhitter parish, reduced almost to a *caput mortuum*, cannot be reclaimed without immense expence.

Farming utensils were extremely rude. Peat from the moss, and dung to the field were carried in panniers. Tumbling carts (the axle revolving with a clumsy wheel) composed of the roughest materials were next introduced. To these succeeded the Murray cart, extremely ill constructed, whereof the wheels, always screeching, revolved on a fixed axis. Then the cast wheels of English chaises, vamped up for the purpose, were brought to market. But now substantial and well constructed carts of home manufacture, and properly adapted to the moving power, are every where in use.

It deserves notice, that before rational farming dawned, servants had in summer little to do, but to drive peat, cut grafs, and pull thistle. They slept through the greatest part of the day, and executed the little work incumbent upon them during the night. But now every lawful day throughout the year is devoted to active employment, and the exclusive privilege of turning day into night is indulged without a sigh to the great and the idle.

Manufacture.—Buchan was formerly distinguished by a breed of small but valuable sheep, whose wool, combined with a few packs remitted from Edinburgh, was manufactured into seys, farges, prunillas, blankets, &c. partly consumed at home, and partly exported to Holland. To these succeeded the curtain web, calculated for the West India market. The curtain web was a coarse, thin, white farge, starched, and often rent in starching by a violent exertion of the manufacturer, who soon lost a lucrative trade by indulging an intemperate thirst of gain. When this branch failed, manufacture was preserved from expiring by the fabrication of a little cloth for sacks, by harden, (a stuff made from the coarsest of the flax,) and by a little linen and
woolen

woolen cloth of inconsiderable value. As tradesmen could not depend on constant employment, they at all times fared but poorly, and in seasons of scarcity were reduced to great distress. But now, manufacture and mechanism are eagerly pursued and liberally rewarded; and the industrious are, for the most part, in easy circumstances*. Manufacture and commerce, mutually operating as cause and effect, produce and reproduce each other. Even in the year 1755, one man carried on his back all the articles, wool excepted, which either the merchants or private families of Monquhitter parish commissioned or sent away; but now, exclusive of what is sent to and brought from fairs, 4 carriers and 5 horses find constant employment in exporting and importing (if the expressions may be allowed) for this parish.

Dwellings.—The gentry always aspired to large houses, and not seldom to castles; but the size of the public rooms frequently encroached on convenience, and the smallness of windows rendered every room dark and comfortable. In every house, for so the times required, there was a hiding place, where the owner or his friend might be concealed from the public or private avenger.

The house of the farmer, commonly built of sod, consisted of a fire house where family and servants sat and eat; of a pantry †, and sometimes of an intermediate space where beds
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* May 13th 1793. The same stagnation of trade that presently distresses our country operates in this corner. May it be soon dispelled!

† The pantry, notwithstanding its Grecian extraction, was always in bad order, and fully celled by the spider, whose labours were respected by the industrious housewife. A just idea of what a farmer's house for the most part was, may be conveyed in the words of a madwoman to a preacher in the church of Portferry, whose text was, 'In my father's house are many mansions.'—'In your father's house are many mansions!' exclaimed the maniac: 'Auld Banksies! I knew it full well, a but, and a ben, and that but !!! red up!'

and meal chests were ordinarily placed. The cottage built on an inferior scale differed in no other respect from the farmer's or ha' house; a house built of stones and adorned with a chimney, marked the residence of an opulent farmer, or of the younger son of a gentleman.

But now, the houses of gentlemen, light, airy, regular and convenient, are built and furnished in an elegant style. The houses of farmers, frequently neat, spacious, and slated, are always built of stones, and furnished with one or more chimnies. And there are few cottages without a fire place in the pantry, to which the owners may occasionally retire.

Diet.—In summer and autumn, a gentleman's table was fully supplied with excellent lamb and mutton; but in winter and spring, except poultry, whereof great numbers were exacted from the tenants, no fresh provisions could be procured but at the time when the mart, i. e. the fatted ox or cow was killed, which, even in genteel families was an era of luxury and consequence. As tea was seldom drunk, breakfast consisted of pottage and strong beer, cold meat, fish, eggs, &c.

In a farmer's house all the butcher meat used was commonly part of a fatted animal in winter. Some economists killed and salted such of the flock as could not, (as was supposed in autumn,) survive the winter. Entertainments to the neighbour were very rare. Ale, unless with a few, or on certain occasions, was to be found in the tavern only. Cheese was very bad. Cream, too long kept, and purified by drawing off the thin part, or wig, for drink, was converted into butter by the operation of the hand. And the ordinary diet of farmer and servant may be described by the questions asked, viz. Have you got your pottage? i. e. your breakfast; Have

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you got your sowans? i. e. your dinner; Have you got your brose? i. e. your supper.

But now, fresh provision of the best kinds abounding through the year, gentlemens tables are distinguished by elegant hospitality. Farmers appropriate to themselves a moderate share of those comforts and necessaries that they provide for others: Suitable entertainment and accommodation await the friend. The business of the dairy is conducted with propriety. And the ordinary fare of all ranks is greatly improved.

Dress.—Gentlemen always wore good linen and best sey of home manufacture; on extraordinary occasions they were adorned with Holland shirts, and with English cloth embroidered with gold or silver. Ladies, when at home were neatly plain; when abroad, abundantly showy.

The poorer class of farmers, tradesmen, and day labourers, some of whom did not aspire to the luxury of a shirt, commonly wore farges, either grey, or tinged by a hasty blue. The richer class of farmers, a few in opulent circumstances excepted, contented themselves with a harden shirt; the collar and wrists of which were concealed at kirk and market by two pieces of linen, called *neck and sleeves*. On working days their cloaths were coarse enough; on Sundays and holidays they dressed in best farge or sey, double blue, shorn from their own flocks, and manufactured in their own families. The blue bonnet adorned almost every head. Whenever a hat appeared, an idea of opulence, literature, or rank, immediately excited profound obeisance. I am sorry to add, that cleanliness was but little attended to. The trash substituted for soap, instead of possessing a cleansing, possessed a contaminating quality, and cutaneous disorders too generally prevailed.

But now, hats, broad cloth, good linen adorned with ruffles,

fles, are occasionally worn by all ranks of men. Duffle and silk cloaks, printed and muslin gowns, by all ranks of women. And the gentry can only be distinguished from plebeians by their superior manner, and by that elegant simplicity in dress which they now admire. Linen, always washed with soap, is frequently changed; and cutaneous disorders are now as rare as they were formerly frequent.

Manners.—To a rude age, in point of manners, we are ready to give more credit than is justly due. Every age displays virtues and vices peculiar to itself; and man, whether barbarous or refined, is still man. Tradition, and the records of session, where the memory of sinners of every rank is duly preserved, unite in declaring, that, among our fathers, the robust vices prevailed in a great degree. It was not uncommon for a number of gentlemen to dine with a neighbour, and to adjourn with him to the nearest tavern, where they sometimes drank, and quarrelled, and slept for days together. Their example was too closely copied by wadsetters and substantial farmers. And even the lowest of the people were too liberal in consigning their money or goods to the brewster wife (the hostess of the tavern), who, in those days, was always a person of parochial consequence. Funerals were disgraced by riot and drunkenness, and the body of the friend or the neighbour was duly laid in the dust by a staggering, babbling multitude *. Public meetings, whether

* In one division of this county, where it was believed that the ghost of the person last buried kept the gate of the church-yard 'till relieved by the next victim of death, a singular scene occurred when two burials were to take place in one church yard on the same day. Both parties staggered forward as fast as possible to consign their respective friend in the first place to the dust. If they met at the gate, the dead were thrown down, 'till the living decided by blows whose ghost should be condemned to porter it.

ther sacred or civil, were disgraced by quarrels, frequently resumed, and not seldom terminating in blood or in murder*. An insatiate thirst of revenge raged almost in every bosom, and armed the ferocious with the dagger of assassination†.

But now quarrels, extremely rare, are confined to the very lowest of the people. Funerals are conducted with due solemnity by people in their senses. Drunkenness has lost, and is losing ground; and unless by the sot, the tavern is never frequented but when propriety or necessity require it.

Amusements.—People who are not regularly and profitably employed rejoice in a holiday, as the mean of throwing off that langour which oppresses the mind, and of exerting their active powers. So it was with our fathers. They frequently met to exert their strength in wrestling, in casting the hammer, and in throwing the stone; their agility at foot-ball; and their dexterity at coits and penny-stone. The midsummer-even fire, a reliet of druidism, was kindled in some parts of this county; the hallow-even fire, another reliet of druidism, was kindled in Buchan. Various magic ceremonies were then celebrated to counteract the influence of witches and demons, and to prognosticate to the

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* Servants frequently bargained for liberty to attend a certain number of markets. One fellow was asked by his master how he had returned so soon from one of these—The reply was, ‘I have drunk my pint, and made my play, and what more had I to do?’

† One Conn, a mason, acquired, by building the castles of Delgaty and Craigston, the lands of Little Auchry, whereon he built the Red Castle, to defend himself from a neighbouring gentleman with whom he was at enmity. One day, however, he was shot dead in his own door by his enemy, whom he was observing, as he thought at a safe distance, walking along the river side. ‘Nec profunt domino, quæ profunt omnibus artes.’ But, though the Red Castle is now rased, and though Conn’s lands belong to Earl Fife, yet Conn’s name is preserved by a quarry near to Delgaty, and his race by some opulent descendants in Spain.

young their success or disappointment in the matrimonial lottery. These being devoutly finished, the hallow fire was kindled, and guarded by the male part of the family. Societies were formed, either by pique or humour, to scatter certain fires, and the attack and defence were often conducted with art and with fury. Shrove Tuesday, Valentine eve, the Rood day, &c. &c. were accompanied by pastimes and practices congenial to the youthful and ignorant mind. The market place was to the peasant, what the drawing-room is to the peer, the theatre of shew and of consequence. The scene, however, which involved every amusement and every joy of an idle and illiterate age, was *the penny bridal*. When a pair were contracted, they, for a stipulated consideration, bespoke their wedding dinner at a certain tavern, and then ranged the country in every direction to solicit guests. One, two, and even three hundred would have convened on these occasions, to make merry at their own expence for two or more days. This scene of feasting, drinking, dancing, wooing, fighting, &c. was always enjoyed with the highest relish, and, until obliterated by a similar scene, furnished ample materials for rural mirth and rural scandal.

But now, the penny bridal is reprobated as an index of want of money, and of want of taste. The market place is generally occupied by people on business. Athletic amusements are confined to school-boys. The hallow fire, when kindled, is attended by children only; and the country girl, renouncing the rites of magic, endeavours to enchant her swain by the charms of dress and of industry. Dancing, taught by itinerant masters, cards, and conversation, are the amusements now in vogue; and the pleasures of the table, enlivened by a moderate glass, are frequently enjoyed in a suitable degree by people of every class.

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The Proverb, the Allegory, the Fret and the Song.—No people, however rude, was ever destitute of some rules to instruct them in the transaction of business, the requisites of economy, the interchange of civility, and the history of the country. To the illiterate of the preceding age, these rules were communicated by the proverb, the allegory, the fret and the song. The proverb in every mouth, and seemingly flowing from the blood of the Panchas in every vein, explained, frequently in a coarse, but always in an expressive manner, the laws of propriety and prudence. The allegory shadowed forth, by the entertainment to be prepared for certain personages, what stores were to be allotted for the various seasons. The fret, enforcing the duty to the neighbour and friend, contained the code of vulgar good-breeding*. Many frets, like the institutions of Brama, cannot now be traced to their origin; but the benevolent mind rejoices to perceive that some of them strongly enforce the dictates of humanity†. The song conveyed the outline of a flattering chronicle, and enforced the dictates of patriotic virtue: while it illustrated

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* It might throw light on the real state of the Chinese, if it should be investigated how far they resemble our fathers in their mode of instruction. Similar institutions frequently distinguish mankind in similar states of society.

† It was most unhappy for a woman, after bringing forth a child, to offer a visit, and for her neighbours to receive it, 'till she had been duly churched. How strongly did this enforce gratitude to the Supreme Being for a safe delivery?—On the day when such a woman was churched, every family, favoured with a call, were bound to set meat and drink before her; and when they omitted to do so, they and theirs were to be loaded with her hunger. What was this but an obligation, on all who had it in their power, to do the needful to prevent a feeble woman from fainting for want?—It disturbed the ghost of the dead, and was fatal to the living, if a tear was allowed to fall on a winding-sheet. What was the intention of this, but to prevent the effects of a wild or frantic sorrow?—If a cat was permitted to leap over a corpse, it portended misfortune. The meaning of this was to prevent that carnivorous animal from coming near the body of the deceased, lest, when the watchers were asleep, it should endeavour to prey upon it.—&c. &c.

the manners of preceding generations, it not seldom fired the bosom with heroic ardour.

But now, a company of country men, despising the proverb, may be ranked among the disciples of the finical Chesterfield. The allegory, no longer necessary to illustrate the laws of economy, is reserved for the amusement of the nursery. The fret presents its terrors to the weakest class of old women only. And the song, to my sorrow, no longer painting the character of antient times, may vie in inanity with the ordinary vehicles of Italian music.

Opinion.—In opinion, an amazing alteration has been produced by education and social intercourse. Few of the old being able to read, and fewer still to write, their minds were clouded by ignorance. The mind being uncultivated, the imagination readily admitted the terrors of superstition. The appearance of ghosts and demons too frequently engrossed the conversation of the young and the old. The Fye gave due warning by certain signs of approaching mortality. Elves by their arrows destroyed, and not seldom unmercifully, cows and oxen. Fairies held from time immemorial certain fields, which could not be taken away without gratifying these merry spirits by a piece of money. The old man's fold, where the druid sacrificed to the demon for his corn and cattle, could not be violated by the ploughshare. Lucky and unlucky days, dreams and omens, were most religiously attended to *; and reputed witches, by their spells and their prayers, were artful enough to lay every parish under contribution. In short, a system of mythology full as absurd and amusing as the mythology of Homer obtained general belief.

But

* Lucky and unlucky days, dreams and omens, are still too much observed by the country people: but in this respect, the meanest Christian far surpasses, in strength of mind, Gibbon's all-accomplished and philosophic Julian!

But now, ghosts and demons are no longer visible. The fye has withdrawn his warning, and the elf his arrows. Fairies, without requiring compensation, have renounced their possessions. The old man's fold is reduced to tillage. The sagacious old woman, who has survived her friends and means, is treated with humanity, in spite of the grisly bristles which adorn her mouth. And in the minds of the young, cultivated by education, a steady pursuit of the arts of life has banished the chimeras of fancy *. Books, trade, manufacture, foreign and domestic news, now engross the conversation; and the topic of the day is always warmly, if not ingeniously discussed. From believing too much, many, particularly in the higher walks of life, have rushed to the opposite extreme of believing too little; so that, even in this remote corner, scepticism may justly boast of her votaries.

Longevity.—Since the year 1776, the following persons have died in a very advanced age in Montquhitter parish:—

Years of age.		Years of age.	
Margaret Greig	90	Agnes Greenlaw	93
Mrs Hay of Asleid	90	Margaret Wilson	96
Isobel Keith	90	James Mackie	96
John Horne	91	Margt. Cruickshank	100
William Frazer	91	Geo. Mitchel	100 & upwards.
Margt. Shepherd	92	Geo. Forbes, May }	90 & upwards.
Margt. Jeffery	92	5th, 1793.	
William Leid	92		

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* Education has been much attended to in this parish for many years past. We have, at present, an excellent schoolmaster, who teaches English, Latin, French, Greek, the mathematics with their practical application: but alas, he drudges for 100 merks a-year! The heritors have lately given him a fine school; and it is to be hoped that men of so liberal minds will soon see the propriety of giving him a decent salary.

Two anecdotes will illustrate how tenacious some are of life, and with what indifference others contemplate death.—A neighbour endeavoured to comfort Margaret Cruickshank, when in the 99th year of her age, for the loss of a daughter with whom she had long resided, by observing that in the course of nature she could not long survive. ‘Aye,’ said the good old woman with pointed indignation, ‘what Fye ‘token do ye see about me?’

James Mackie, by trade a wright, was asked by a neighbour for what purpose he had bought some fine deal that he observed in his barn. ‘It is timber for my coffin,’ quoth James. ‘Sure,’ replies the neighbour, ‘you mean not to ‘make your own coffin. You have neither resolution nor ‘ability for the task.’ ‘Hout away, man,’ says James, ‘if I were ance begun, I’ll soon ca’t by hand.’—The hand, but not the heart, failed him, and he left the task of making the coffin to a younger operator.

Population.—In 1796, the number of souls in Monquhitter parish had increased to 1500.

No. XL. Page 354.

Parish of Little-Dunkeld.

Rev. John Robertson.

Errata in the Account of Little-Dunkeld.

Page 354. in the note, for Restoration, read Reformation.

Ibid. for district, read parish.

359. line 13. for yards, read years.

360. 21. expunge the word acres.

Page

- Page 361. line 18. *for cheer, read char.*
 362. 17. *for overlook, read overstock.*
 364. 18. *for the people, read and the people.*
 364. 3d from the bottom, *for kaftens, read*
 haftens.
 367. 13th from the top, *for the woman spin, read*
 a woman spins.
 369. 9. *for produce, read produces.*
 370. *for 6:18, read 9:18.*
 372. 23. *for fall, read falls.*
 374. 3d of the note, *for oaks, read rocks.*
 Ibid. near the bottom, *for Forhaillon, read Carhaillon.*
 Ibid. *for Dalmacoing, read Dalnacoring.*
 In the etymologies, *for Fuigh, read Tuigh.*
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No. L. - Page 477.

Parish of Kincardine.

The following full and accurate account of the moss of Kincardine must no doubt be acceptable and useful to the public; as it describes the rise and progress of the most singular and considerable piece of improvement that has yet been executed in any parish in Scotland.

There is probably no track of land of the same extent, equally unprofitable and useless, that has ever been rendered so productive and populous, in any part of the three kingdoms. As there are extensive tracts of waste land, similar to the moss of Kincardine, both in Britain and Ireland; the suc-
 cessful

cessful improvement here described, well deserves to be generally known and pursued. Whatever advantage accrues from it to the proprietor is meritoriously obtained: as by this practice, the produce of the country in corn and cattle is enlarged; the country itself is rendered more populous; and the lowest of the people not only find beneficial employment, but it affords motives to excite them to the exertion of the most vigorous and useful industry.

A large number of the settlers in the moss of Kincardine were people of the lowest rank in the Highlands, expelled from their native residence in consequence of the extensive sheep farms which have been established of late. Had opportunity offered, they would have removed to America. Fortunately, however, they have here found, not only an asylum, but a comfortable settlement, in which they are usefully employed for themselves, and with great benefit to their country. Was this mode of reclaiming waste land adopted by the great proprietors in the Highlands; they would not only retain their people, but, by retaining them, would augment the value of their property, and stop all emigration to America: which without this, or some other effectual remedy, will not be prevented.

This extraordinary piece of improvement took its rise from the inventive genius and patriotic views of the late Lord Kames; and has been conducted and brought to perfection by his son, in a liberal and judicious manner. But though it had no precedent, it is surprising that, from the experience of its utility, it should not as yet have been followed as an example by any other proprietor. In Moss Flanders, which is adjacent, there are near 10,000 acres perfectly similar, but which have greater advantages with respect to water than the moss of Kincardine.

It is urged by some landholders, who have extensive mos-

ses upon their estates, that the subsoil in Kincardine moss is a clay of a very rich quality, and peculiarly favourable for this method of improvement. But, the very same clay is to be found at the bottom of many of our mosses in Scotland. Most of our extensive mosses are bottomed by clay, or by a mixture of clay and sand; which, with a proportion of peat earth, forms a most improvable soil. Wherever timber is found in a moss, it must have grown on the soil at the bottom; and wherever large trees have grown, on a plain, or in a valley, there must remain a soil well worth cultivation. It will be observed, on the perusal of this paper, that the great obstacle to the undertaking was the want of a sufficient command of water, which occasioned a considerable expence. But in many of our mosses in Scotland there is no such obstacle; and consequently all such expence may be avoided.

The most important part of this plan is, the nature of the tenure by which the people who improve the moss are to hold their possessions. In whatever way our mosses are to be reduced to culture, it will be found, that this sort of tenure, or something similar to it, is the most effectual means to attain the end.

THE moss of Kincardine is situated in the parish of the same name, comprehended betwixt the rivers Forth and Teith, and in that district of Perthshire called Monteith. The moss begins about a mile above the confluence of these rivers; from thence it extends in length about four miles, and from one to two in breadth; and before the commencement of the operations, (an account of which is to be given) comprehended near 2000 acres, of which about 1500 belong to the estate of Blair-Drummond, the property of Lord Kames by his marriage with Mrs Drummond of Blair-Drummond.

As mosses are extremely various in their nature; before

entering upon the improvements made in Kincardine moss, it will be proper to give a short description of that moss, and of the subjacent soil which is the object of those improvements.

The moss lies upon a field of clay, which is a continuation of those rich, extensive flats in the neighbourhood of Falkirk and Stirling, distinguished by the name of *carfes*. This clay, which is one uniform homogeneous mass, sinking to a great depth, consists, near the surface, of different colours, and is disposed in layers. The uppermost is grey; the next is reddish; and the lowest, which is the most fertile, is blue. Through the whole mass not a pebble is to be found. The only extraneous bodies it contains are sea shells, which occur in all the varieties peculiar to the eastern coast of Scotland. They are disposed sometimes in beds, sometimes scattered irregularly at different depths. By attending to these circumstances, it cannot be doubted that the sea has been the means of the whole accumulation, and that it was carried on in a gradual manner by the ordinary ebb and flow of the tide. Upon any other supposition, why should there not have been a congeries of all the different materials that compose the surface of the surrounding heights? But to whatever cause the origin of this accumulation may be ascribed, certain it is that no soil is more favourable to vegetation, or carries more abundant crops of every kind.

The surface of the clay, which, upon the retreat of the sea, had been left in an almost level plane, is every where thickly covered with trees, chiefly oak and birch, many of them of a great size. These trees seem to have been the first remarkable produce of the carse; and it is probable they were propagated by dissemination from the surrounding eminences. They are found lying in all directions beside their roots, which still continue firm in the ground in their natur-

al position; and from impressions still visible, it is evident they have been cut with an axe or some similar instrument. For the cutting of wood, the two common purposes are, either to apply it to its proper use, or that the ground it occupies may be cultivated. In the present case, however, neither of these ends had been proposed, since the trees, by being left just as they were cut, were not only entirely lost, but the ground was rendered totally unfit for cultivation. Hence it is evident, that the downfall of this wood must be ascribed to some more extraordinary cause; and to none more probably than to that expedient, which, as we learn from Dion Cassius and other historians, the Romans put so extensively in practice, to dislodge from their forests the antient inhabitants of the British islands.

This hypothesis acquires no small degree of force from a circumstance that occurred in May 1768, when a large round vessel of thin brass and curious workmanship, 25 inches in diameter and 16 inches in height, was discovered upon the surface of the clay buried under the moss. This vessel, found upon the estate of John Ramsay, Esq. of Ochertyre, was by that gentleman presented to the Antiquarian Society of Edinburgh; in whose museum it remains deposited for preservation. And in a list of the various donations presented to that society, published by them in 1782, it is there denominated a ‘Roman camp kettle.’

Between the clay and the moss is found a stratum 9 inches thick, partly dark brown, and partly of a colour approaching to black. This is a vegetable mould, accumulated probably by the plants that covered the ground previous to the growth of the wood, and by leaves from the trees thereafter. The difference of colour must be owing to a difference in the vegetable substances that compose it. The brown mould is highly fertile; the other, especially in a dry season, is very

unproductive. The crop that had occupied this mould when the trees were felled is found still entire. It consists chiefly of heath: but several other smaller plants are also very distinguishable.

Immediately above this stratum lies the moss, to the height, upon an average, of seven feet. It is composed of different vegetables arranged in three distinct strata. Of these the first is three feet thick. It is black and heavy, and preferable to the others for the purpose of fuel. It consists of bent-grass (*agrostis*) which seems to have grown up luxuriantly among the trees after they were felled. The second stratum also is three feet thick. It is composed of various kinds of mosses, but principally of bog-moss (*sphagnum*.) It is of a fallow or iron colour, and remarkably elastic. It is commonly called *white peat*; and for fuel is considered as much inferior to that above mentioned. The third stratum is composed of heath and a little bent-grass, but chiefly of the deciduous parts of the former. It is about a foot thick, and black.

Three strata of different vegetables lying above each other, the limits of each distinctly marked, and each distinguished by a different colour, is certainly a curious natural phenomenon.

An enquiry will here occur, What has occasioned this succession in the vegetables of which the moss is composed?

Every vegetable has a particular soil, more or less moist, peculiarly adapted to its nature. Let a piece of ground be in a moist state, rushes will introduce themselves; drain the ground sufficiently, the rushes will disappear, and finer vegetables will succeed. It seems reasonable to account for the succession of the different plants that compose the moss on similar principles.

Let us imagine an extensive plain covered with trees lying in all directions, full of branches, and possibly loaded with
leaves.

leaves. This it is evident would produce a great stagnation of water, which, as the crops of bent-grass accumulated, would still increase: and the probability is, that at length it had so increased, as to be the cause why the bent-grass and other congenial plants of the first stratum ceased to grow. But it is evident that a plant was to be found that could live in such a situation. Accordingly we see that bog-moss had established itself; a plant that loves even to swim in water.

When the accumulations of bent-grass and the mosses had, in process of time, arisen to the height of six feet above the surrounding *carse* ground, the water that fell upon the surface had by that means an opportunity to discharge itself. It has accordingly formed many channels, which are often three feet deep; and the intermediate surface being wholly turned into little hillocks has become dry and firm. By this means it became unfit for mosses, and heath succeeded.

Such seems to have been the process in the formation of what is now called *a moss*.

By far the greatest part of the moss in question is, upon an average, full seven feet deep, and has in all probability lain undisturbed since its formation: this is called the *High Moss*. The remainder, called the *Low Moss*, lies to a considerable breadth around the extremities of the high; and is, upon an average, not above three feet in depth, to which it has been reduced by the digging of peats. These are formed of that stratum of the moss only that lies four feet below the surface and downwards; the rest is improper for the purpose, and is thrown aside.

Before the introduction of the plan which is now pursued, two methods chiefly were employed to gain land from the moss. 1st, The surrounding farmers marked off yearly a portion of the Low Moss next to their arable land, about 15 feet broad. This they removed with carts and spread
upon

upon their fields, some acres of which they, for that end, left unsown. Here it lay till May or June; when, being thoroughly dry, it was burnt to ashes to serve as a manure. By this means they added to their farms about half a rood of land yearly. But this plan proved unsuccessful; for by the repeated application of these ashes, the soil was rendered so loose that the crops generally failed. 2dly, Many farmers were wont to *trench down* the low moss, and to cover it *furrow deep* with clay taken out of the trench. This, though commendable as an attempt to improve, proved likewise an unavailing method; because in a dry season the superficial covering of clay retains so little moisture that the crop commonly fails.

It has been attempted to cover the moss with clay brought from the adjacent grounds. But what from the necessary impoverishment of the ground from which the clay was carried, and the softness of the moss, this was soon found to be impracticable.

Draining has also been proposed as another mode of improvement; and it must be acknowledged, that, by means of draining, many mosses have been converted both into arable and meadow grounds, which in the end became interesting improvements. But in a moss, such as that of Kincardine, this method would be ineffectual; as for several feet deep it is of such a nature, that upon being dry and divided into parts, it would blow with the wind like chaff; and when thrown aside in the operation of digging peats, it lies for years without producing a single vegetable, except only a few plants of sorrel.

Hence it is evident, that all attempts to *improve* this moss must ever prove abortive; and that the object to be had in view is the acquisition of the valuable soil lying underneath;

to

to which end nothing less is requisite than the total abolition of the moss.

By the methods above described from 100 to 200 acres of moss had been removed. When the present plan was introduced, there still remained covered with moss from 1300 to 1400 acres of carse clay—a treasure for which it must be ever interesting to dig.

In the year 1766 Lord Kames entered into possession of the estate of Blair Drummond. Long before that period he was well acquainted with the moss, and often lamented that no attempt had ever been made to turn it to advantage. Many different plans were now proposed; at length it was resolved to attempt, by means of water as the most powerful agent, entirely to sweep off the whole body of moss.

That moss might be floated in water, was abundantly obvious; but to find water in sufficient quantity was difficult, the only stream at hand being employed to turn a corn-mill. Convinced of the superior consequence of dedicating this stream to the purpose of floating off the moss, Lord Kames having made an agreement with the tenant who farmed the mill, and the tenants thirled consenting to pay the rent, he immediately threw down the mill, and applied the water to the above purpose.

In order to determine the best manner of conducting the operation, workmen were now employed for a considerable time upon the Low Moss both by the day and by the piece, to ascertain the expence for which a given quantity of moss could be removed. It was then agreed to operate at a certain rate per acre; and in this manner several acres were removed.

But this was to be a very expensive process. The ground gained might, indeed, be afterwards let to tenants; but every acre would require an expenditure from 12*l.* to 15*l.* before

it could be ready for sowing; so that the acquisition of the whole, computing it at a medium to be 1350 acres, would sink a capital of nearly 20,000*l.* sterling.

One other method still remained; namely, to attempt letting portions of the moss, as it lay, for a term of years sufficient to indemnify tenants for the expences incurred in removing it. For some time both these plans were adopted; but several reasons made the latter preferable. 1. The quantity of water to be had was small; and being also uncertain, it was very inconvenient for an undertaker; neither were there any houses near the spot, which occasioned a great loss of time in going and coming: but when a man should live upon the spot, then he could be ready to seize every opportunity. 2. The moss was an useless waste. To let it to tenants would increase the population of the estate, and afford to a number of industrious people the means of making to themselves a comfortable livelihood.

In the mean time it was determined, till as many tenants should be got as could occupy the whole water, to carry on the work by means of undertakers.

But before proceeding farther, it will be necessary to describe the manner of applying water to the purpose of floating the moss.

A stream of water sufficient to turn a common corn-mill will carry off as much moss as 20 men can throw into it, provided they be stationed at the distance of 100 yards from each other. The first step is to make, in the clay, alongside of the moss, a drain to convey the water: and for this operation the carse-clay below the moss is peculiarly favourable, being perfectly free from stones and all other extraneous substances, and at the same time, when moist, slippery as soap; so that not only is it easily dug, but its lubricity greatly facilitates the progress of the water when loaded with moss.

moses. The dimensions proper for the drain are found to be two-feet for the breadth and the same for the depth. If smaller, it could not conveniently receive the spadefuls of mofs; if larger, the water would escape, leaving the mofs behind. The drain has an inclination of one foot in 100 yards: the more regularly this inclination is observed throughout, the less will the mofs be liable to obstructions in its progress with the water. The drain being formed, the operator marks off to a convenient extent along-side of it a section of mofs 10 feet broad; the greatest distance from which he can heave his spadeful into the drain. This he repeatedly does till the entire mass be removed down to the clay. He then digs a new drain at the foot of the mofs bank, turns the water into it, and proceeds as before, leaving the mofs to pursue its course into the river Forth, a receptacle equally convenient and capacious; upon the fortunate situation of which, happily forming for several miles the southern boundary of the estate, without the interposition of any neighbouring proprietor, depended the very existence of the whole operations.

When the mofs is entirely removed, the clay is found to be encumbered with the roots of different kinds of trees standing in it as they grew, often very large: their trunks also are frequently found lying beside them. All these the tenants remove, often with great labour. In the course of their operations they purposely leave upon the clay a stratum of mofs six inches thick. This, in Spring, when the season offers, they reduce to ashes, which in a great measure ensures the first crop. The ground thus cleared is turned over, where the dryness admits, with a plough, and, where too soft, with a spade. A month's exposure to the sun, wind, and frost, reduces the clay to a powder fitting it for the seed in March and April. A crop of oats is the first, which sel-

dom fails of being plentiful, yielding from eight to ten bolls after one.

In the year 1767 an agreement was made with one tenant for a portion of the Low Mofs. This, as being the first step towards the intended plan, was then viewed as a considerable acquisition. The same terms agreed upon with this tenant have ever since been observed with all the rest. They are as follow :

The tenant holds eight acres of mofs by a tack of 38 years ; he is allowed a proper quantity of timber, and two bolls of oatmeal to support him while employed in rearing a house ; the first seven years he pays no rent ; the eighth year he pays one merk Scots ; the ninth year two merks ; and so on with the addition of one merk yearly till the end of the first 19 years ; during the last five years of which he also pays a hen yearly. Upon the commencement of the second 19 years, he begins to pay a yearly rent of 12s. for each acre of land cleared from mofs, and 2s. 6d. for each acre not cleared, also two hens yearly : A low rent indeed for so fine a soil ; but no more than a proper reward for his laborious exertions in acquiring it.

In the year 1768 another tenant was settled. These two were tradesmen ; to whom the preference was always given, as having this great advantage to recommend them, that even when deprived of water they need never want employment. The motives that induced these people to become settlers were, 1st, The prospect of an independent establishment for a number of years. 2^{dly}, The mofs afforded them great abundance of excellent fuel ; to which was added the comfortable consideration, that, while busied in providing that necessary article, they had the double advantage of promoting, at the same time, the principal object of their settlement.

Notwithstanding these inducements, still settlers offered slowly ;

slowly; to which two circumstances chiefly contributed: 1st, The whole farmers surrounding the moss threw every possible obstruction in their way. 2^{dly}, By people of all denominations the scheme was viewed as a chimerical project, and became a common topic of ridicule. The plan, however, supported itself; and in the year 1769 five more tenants agreed for eight acres each; and thus 56 acres of Low Moss were disposed of. From the progress made by the first settlers, and the addition of these, the obloquy of becoming a moss tenant gradually became less regarded; so that in the year 1772 two more were added; in 1773, three; and in 1774, one; in all 13: which disposed of 104 acres; all the Low Moss to which water could then be conveyed. As water is the main spring of the operation, every tenant, beside the attention necessary to his share of the principal stream, collected water by every possible means, making ditches round his portion of the moss, and a reservoir therein to retain it till wanted.

The tenants in the Low Moss having now begun to raise good crops, in the year 1774 several persons offered to take possessions in the High Moss, upon condition that access to it should be rendered practicable. The High Moss wanted many advantages that the Low possessed. To the Low Moss, lying contiguous to the surrounding arable lands, the access was tolerably good; but from the arable lands the High Moss was separated by 300 or 400 yards of the Low, which, even to a man, affords but indifferent footing, and to horses is altogether impracticable. The Low Moss is in general only three feet deep; the High Moss is from six to twelve feet in depth.

It will appear at first sight, that without a road of communication the High Moss must for ever have proved unconquerable. Without delay, therefore, a road was opened to

the breadth of twelve feet, for several hundred yards in length, by floating off the moss down to the clay.

This being effected, and at the same time an opening given to admit water, in the year 1775 twelve tenants agreed for eight acres of High Moss each. In consideration of the greater depth of this part of the moss, it was agreed, that during the first 19 years they should pay no rent; but for the second 19 years the terms of agreement were the same as those made with the tenants in the Low Moss. To the above-mentioned tenants every degree of encouragement was given; as upon their success depended, in a great measure, the disposal of the great quantity of moss still remaining. But their success, however problematical, was such, that next year,

1776, 6 more took 8 acres each,

1777, 1

1778, 4

1779, 3

1780, 1

1781, 1

1782, 1

In all, including those upon the Low Moss, 42 tenants, occupying 336 acres.

Though for some time the disposal of the High Moss went but slowly on, it was not for want of tenants; but the number of operators was already sufficient for the quantity of water; to have added more would evidently have been imprudent.

In the year 1783 Mr Drummond entered into possession of the estate of Blair-Drummond, and went fully into the plan adopted by his predecessor for subduing the moss. At this time there still remained undisposed of about 1000 acres of High Moss. As water was the great desideratum, it was determined,

determined, that to obtain that necessary article neither pains nor expence should be wanting. Steps were accordingly taken to ascertain in what manner it might be procured to most advantage.

Meanwhile, to prepare for new tenants, a second road parallel to the former, at the distance of half a mile, was immediately begun and cut, with what water could be got, down to the clay, 12 feet broad and 2670 yards long, quite across the mofs. This opening was previously necessary, that operators might get a drain formed in the clay to direct the water; and it was to remain as a road that was absolutely necessary, and which relieved settlers from an expence they were unable to support. These preparations, the progress of the former tenants, and the prospect of a farther supply of water, induced 10 more to take possessions in the year 1783; in the year 1784, 18 more took possessions; and in 1785 no fewer than 27;—in all, 55 tenants in three years, which disposed of 440 acres more of the High Mofs.

As the introduction of an additional stream to the mofs was to be a work both of nicety and expence, it was necessary to proceed with caution. For this reason several engineers were employed to make surveys and plans of the different modes by which it might be procured. In one point they all agreed, that the proper source for furnishing that supply was the river Teith; a large and copious stream that passes within a mile of the mofs: but various modes were proposed for effecting that purpose.

To carry a stream from the river by a cut or canal into the mofs was found to be impracticable; and Mr Whitworth* gave in a plan of a pumping machine, which he was of opinion would answer the purpose extremely well.

Soon

* This gentleman is Superintendant of the London water-works, and an engineer of great reputation in England. He was several years employed in Scotland in completing the great canal.

Soon after this Mr George Meikle of Alloa, a very skilful and ingenious mill-wright, gave in a model of a wheel for raising water entirely of a new construction, of his own and his father's invention jointly. This machine is so exceedingly simple, and acts in a manner so easy, natural, and uniform, that a common observer is apt to undervalue the invention: But persons skilled in mechanics view machinery with a very different eye; for to them simplicity is the first recommendation a machine can possess. Accordingly, upon seeing the model set to work, Mr Whitworth, with that candour and liberality of mind that generally accompany genius and knowledge, not only gave it the greatest praise, but declared that, for the purpose required, it was superior to the machine recommended by himself, and advised it to be adopted without hesitation.

The better to explain this machine, two sketches are annexed, to the first of which the following letters refer. The explanation of the second will be found upon the sketch.

a. Sluice through which is admitted the water that moves the wheel.

b, b. Two sluices through which is admitted the water raised by the wheel.

c, c. A part of one of two wooden troughs and an aperture in the wall, through which the above water is conveyed into the buckets. [The other trough is hid by two stone walls that support the wheel.]

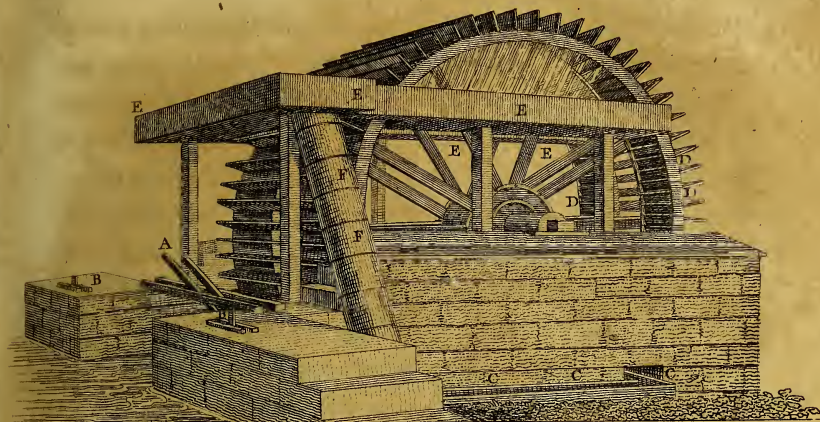
d, d, d. Buckets, of which 80 are arranged on each side of the arms of the wheel = 160.

e, e, e. A cistern, into which the water raised by the buckets is discharged.

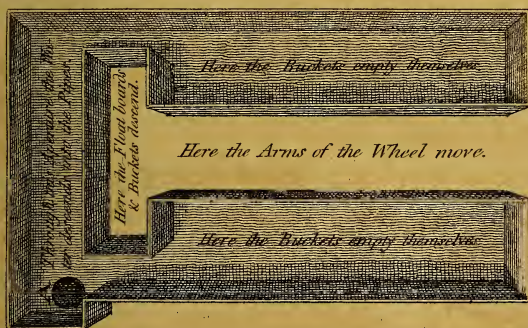
f, f, f. Wooden barrel-pipes, through which the water descends from the cistern underground, to avoid the high road from Stirling and the private approach to the house.

Sketch

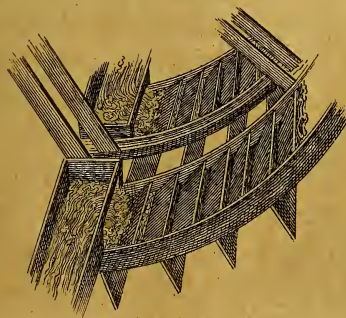
SKETCH OF THE WHEEL FOR RAISING WATER AT BLAIR DRUMMOND



SKETCH OF THE CISTERN AS SEEN FROM ABOVE



Sketch of the manner in which the Water is filled from the Troughs into the Buckets





Sketch second contains a plan of the cistern, and exhibits the manner in which the water is filled into the buckets.

The diameter of the wheel to the extremities of the float-boards is 28 feet; the length of the float-boards, 10 feet. The wheel makes nearly four revolutions per minute; in which time it discharges into the cistern 40 hogsheds of water. But this is not all the wheel is capable of performing; for by several accurate trials by Messrs Whitworth and Meikle, in the result of which, though made separately, they perfectly agreed, it was found that the wheel was able to lift no less than 60 hogsheds per minute; but that the diameter of the pipes through which the water descends from the cistern would not admit a greater quantity than what they already receive.

To a person at all conversant in hydraulics, the resemblance of this to the Persian wheel must be obvious; and indeed it is probable, that from the Persian wheel the first idea of this machine was derived. But admitting this, still the superiority of the present wheel is, in most respects, so conspicuous, as to entitle it to little less praise than the first invention. For, *1st*, In the Persian wheel, the buckets being all moveable, must be constantly going out of order: In this wheel they are all immoveable, consequently never can be out of order. *2^{dly}*, Instead of lifting the water from the bottom of the fall as in the Persian wheel, this wheel lifts it from the top of the fall, being from four to five feet higher; by which means some additional power is gained. *3^{dly}*, By means of the three sluices, (*a* and *b*, *b*, fig. 1.) in whatever situation the river may be, the quantity of the water to be raised is so nicely adjusted to that of the moving power, as constantly to preserve the wheel in a steady and equable motion. In short, as a regulator is to a watch, so are these sluices to this wheel, whose movements would otherwise be so various, as sometimes

sometimes to carry the water clean over the cistern, sometimes to drop it entirely behind, but seldom so as fully to discharge the whole contents of the buckets into the cistern.

It is however but candid to remark, that this machine labours under a small defect, which did not escape the observation of Mr Whitworth; namely, that by raising the water about $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet higher than the cistern where it is ultimately delivered, a small degree of power is lost. To this indeed he proposed a remedy; but candidly confessed, that, as it would render the machine somewhat more complex, and would also increase the friction, he thought it more advisable to keep it in its present state. At the same time he justly observed, that as the stream by which the wheel is moved is at all times copious and powerful, the small loss of power occasioned by the above circumstances was of little or no avail.

This stream is detached from the Teith at the place where that river approaches nearest to the moss. The surface of the latter is about 15 feet higher than that of the former; the cistern is therefore placed 17 feet above the surface of the stream, so as to leave a declivity sufficient to deliver the water upon the surface of the moss.

The pipes through which the water descends from the cistern are composed of wooden barrels hooped with iron 4 feet long and 18 inches in diameter within.

In these pipes, having been conveyed under ground for 354 yards from the cistern, the water at once emerges into an open aqueduct. This aqueduct, which was formed according to a plan by Mr. Whitworth, is constructed wholly of earth or clay; and in order to keep the water on a level with the surface of the moss, it is for nearly two thirds of its course elevated from 8 to 10 feet above the level of the adjacent grounds; the base being 40 feet broad, the summit 18 feet,

feet, and the water-courfe 10 feet broad. It commences at the termination of the pipes; from whence extending above 1400 yards, it difcharges the water into a canal formed for its reception on the furface of the mofs.

For raifing the water to this height there were two reafons. *1^{ft}*, That not only where it was delivered on the mofs, but even after being conveyed to the moft diftant corners, it might ftill retain fufficient power to transport the mofs to the river Forth. *2dly*, That refervoirs of a fufficient height might be formed in the mofs to retain the water delivered during night.

In confequence of Mr Whitworth's advice, a contract was entered into with Mr Meikle in fpring 1787; and by the end of October in that year, the wheel, pipes, and aqueduct, were all completely finifhed: and what, in fo complex and extenfive an undertaking, is by no means common, the different branches of the work were fo completely executed, and fo happily adjusted to each other, that upon trial the effect answered the moft fanguine expectations. The total expence exceeded 1000*l*. fterling.

To induce the proprietor to embark in this undertaking, the mofs tenants had of their own accord previously come under a formal engagement to pay the intereft of any fum that might be expended in procuring a fupply of water. But he was determined they fhould not enjoy by halves the fweets of this long-wifhed-for acquifition. With a view, therefore, not only to reward their paff induftry, but to rouse them to future exertions, he at once fet them free from their engagement; nor has any intereft ever been demanded.

This new fupply was a moft acceptable boon to the mofs tenants.—In order to make an equitable diftribution, the water raifed through the day was allotted to one divifion of operators; that raifed during the night to another. To re-

tain the latter, a canal was formed, extending almost 3 miles through the centre of the mofs. From place to place along the sides are inserted sluices to admit water to the reservoirs of the possessors; each sluice having an aperture proportioned to the number of operators to be supplied from the reservoir which it fills. For the water raised through the day no reservoirs are necessary; as it is immediately used by the division to which it is allotted.

This additional stream, though highly beneficial, yet is not more than sufficient to keep 40 men at constant work. But such a quantity as would give constant work is not necessary; the operators must be often employed in making and repairing their drains, grubbing up roots of trees, &c.; so that a quantity sufficient to give five or six hours work per day to the whole inhabitants is as much as would be wanted. But as the quantity procured was still insufficient for this purpose, a small stream that descended from the higher grounds was diverted from its course and brought into the mofs. From want of level this stream could not be delivered to the greatest advantage; namely, upon the surface of the mofs. Yet by making, at a considerable expence, a drain half a mile long, and a reservoir for the night-water, it was rendered of much importance. And during the whole winter months, as well as in summer, after every fall of rain, it keeps 15 persons fully employed.

In the year 1787 two more tenants agreed for eight acres each; in 1788, four; in 1789, eight; in 1790, four tenants, all agreed for the same number of acres.

The whole mofs was now disposed of except that part called *Flow-mofs*, which comprehended about 400 acres. Here it is twice the usual breadth, so fluid that a pole may be thrust with one hand to the bottom; and the interior part, for near a mile broad, is three feet above the level of all the rest
of

of the moss. Hitherto the many and various difficulties that presented themselves had been overcome by perseverance and expence. But here the extraordinary elevation of the morafs, joined to its great fluidity, seemed to exclude all possibility of admitting a stream of water; and it was the general opinion that the moss-operations had now arrived at their *ne plus ultra*, and that this morafs was doomed to remain a nuisance for ages to come.

But the proprietor had now advanced so far that he could not submit to retreat; and he considered himself as, in some measure, pledged to the country for the completion of this undertaking. To detail the various methods practised to introduce a stream of water into that morafs, would prove tedious. It is sufficient to say, that after a thousand unsuccessful efforts, attended with much trouble and considerable expence, the point at last was gained, and a stream of water was brought in, and carried fairly across the centre of the morafs.

The greatest obstacle was now indeed overcome; but still another remained of no small moment, namely, the discouragement given to settlers from the total impossibility of erecting habitations upon the surface of this morafs. To find a remedy for this evil was difficult. Happily a resource at last occurred. This was to bargain with a certain number of the old tenants whose habitations were nearest, to take leases of portions of the morafs. But as some additional aid was here necessary, it was agreed that 12l. sterling should be gradually advanced to each tenant till he should accomplish the clearing of an acre, for which he or his successor is bound to pay 12s. of yearly rent, equal to 5 per cent. upon the sum advanced. When this point shall be gained, they are bound to dispose, as most agreeable to themselves, either of their old or of their new possession; for which, when once an acre is cleared, purchasers will not be wanting.

In consequence of the above arrangement, during the year 1791 no fewer than 35 of the old tenants agreed, upon the foresaid conditions, for 8 acres each of the Flow-mofs. Thus 1200 acres are now disposed of to 115 tenants. But when these 35 tenants shall each have cleared their acre, then, according to agreement, 35 additional tenants will speedily be acquired; and the mofs will then contain in all 150 families.

To the leases already granted to the tenants in the High Mofs, it is now determined to add a further period of 19 years, (making in all 57 years,) during which they are to pay one guinea per acre; a rent not greater than the land is worth even at present, but greatly below its probable value at that distant period. This, it is hoped, will prove to the tenants a sufficient incitement to continue their operations till their possessions are completely cleared from mofs.

Having now gone through, in detail, the whole progress of the colony since its first settlement in the year 1767; it still remains to take a general view of the effects produced by that establishment.

For several years, at first, the water was used chiefly to carry off mofs, in the forming of new roads, and preparing reservoirs; which considerably retarded the principal object of gaining land. Nevertheless there have been cleared full 300 acres of excellent land, producing wheat, barley, oats, and clover, yielding from six to twelve bolls after one.

From the nature of the undertaking, there is good reason to suppose that the operations will yearly advance with greater rapidity; especially as the greater number of the settlers have only of late begun to operate. Many, besides maintaining their families otherwise by occasional employments, have in the High Mofs cleared in a year one rood of land; some have cleared two, some three roods, and in the Low Mofs an acre.

It was a remark often made, even by persons of some observation, that by collecting together such a number of people, Kincardine would be overstocked; and the consequence would be their becoming a burthen on the parish: for as the bulk of them were labourers not bred to any trade, and possessed of little stock, it was foreseen that, for some time, they could not afford to confine themselves solely to the moss, from which the return must be slow; but behoved, for immediate subsistence, to work for daily hire. Happily these predictions have proved entirely groundless; for such is the growing demand for hands in this country, that not only do the whole of these people find employment whenever they choose to look for it, but their wages have been yearly increasing from the time of their first establishment. In short, they have proved to the corner where they are set down a most useful nursery of labourers; and those very farmers who at first so strongly opposed their settlement, now fly to them as a sure resource for every purpose of agriculture. Still they consider the moss-operations as their principal business; none pay them so well; and when they do leave it to earn a little money, they return with cheerfulness to their proper employment. Many of them already raise from 10 to 60 boils of grain, and have no occasion to go off to other work; which will soon be the case with the whole. Their original stock, indeed, did not often exceed 25*l.* and some had not even 10*l.*; but what was wanting in stock is compensated by industry.

Of the whole inhabitants full nine tenths are Highlanders, from the neighbouring parishes of Callander, Balquhiddy, &c.; a sober, frugal, and industrious people, who, inured to hardships in their own country, are peculiarly qualified to encounter so arduous an undertaking. From this circumstance, too, arises a very happy consequence; that wearing a different garb

garb and speaking a different language from the people amongst whom they are settled, they consider themselves in a manner as one family transported to a foreign land. And hence upon all occasions of difficulty, they fly with alacrity to each others relief. Neither ought it to be forgotten, that, from their first settlement to the present day, not a single instance has occurred amongst them of theft, bad neighbourhood, or of any other misdemeanour, that required the interposition of the civil magistrate. Nor, however poor in circumstances, has any one of them ever stooped to solicit assistance from the funds of the parish appropriated to that purpose.

Though few of the tenants entered with a large stock, one only has been obliged to leave the moss from incapacity to proceed. Many indeed have spent their small stocks, and even run a little in debt: but in this case they have been permitted to sell their tacks upon the following conditions: *1st*, That the purchaser shall be a good man; *2^d*, That the seller shall take another possession. By this manœuvre a new inhabitant is gained; while the old one, relieved from debt, and aided by past experience, recommences his operations with double spirit upon a new possession. The monied man, again, has at once a house and a piece of ground; the want of which, chiefly, startled new beginners.

Some have even made a kind of trade of selling; inasmuch, that from the year 1774 to the present, 1792, no fewer than fifty sales have taken place, producing in all the sum of L. 849 sterling. This proved from time to time a most seasonable recruit to the colony, and gave new vigour and spirits to the whole.

The number of the settlers is productive of an excellent effect; that although some are generally absent, enough still remain to occupy the water constantly. In a favourable day there

there may be seen hundreds, men, women, and children, labouring with the utmost assiduity. The women declare they can make more by working at the moss than at their wheel; and such is their general attachment to that employment, that they have frequently been discovered working by moonlight.

Another happy consequence arising from their numbers is the great quantity of moss they consume for fuel. There are in all 115 families. Each family requires at an average 10 dargues* of peats yearly. Each darg uncovers a space equal to 10 square yards of clay: so that by casting peats, the moss tenants gain yearly about 6 roods of land.

The advantage, too, of providing their fuel with so little trouble, is very great. They require yearly 1150 dargs of peats; which, as each darg when dried and stacked is valued at five shillings, are worth 287l. 10s. sterling; a sum which otherwise must have been expended on the prime cost and carriage of coals. Many of them cast peats for sale; and 100l. worth are yearly disposed of in the town of Stirling, the village of Down, &c.

Though moss-work be laborious, it is at the same time amusing. The operator moves the moss five feet only at a medium; and the water, like carts in other cases, carrying it off as fast as it is thrown in, excites him to activity. Still he must submit to be wet from morning to night. But habit reconciles him to this inconvenience; while his house and arable land fill his eye and cheer his mind. Nor is it found that the health of the inhabitants is in the smallest degree injured either by the nature of the work or the vicinity of the moss.

The

* A dargue (or darg) of peats, is the quantity that one man can cast and two can wheel in a day to the field where they are spread out to dry.

The quantity of moss that one man can move in a day is surprising; when he meets with no interruption, seldom less than 48 cubic yards, each weighing 90 stones. The weight, then, of moss moved per day is no less than 4320 stones. A cubic yard is moved into the water, and of course carried into the river Forth, for one farthing. It follows, that the expence of moving 48 cubic yards is one shilling. But the same quantity moved to the same distance by carts would cost 24 shillings. Hence the advantage derived from the possibility of floating moss in water, and the great importance of having water for that purpose.

The moss, when contrasted with the rich lands surrounding, appeared, especially before the improvements, a very dreary spot; one wide unvaried wild, totally unproductive, unfit even to furnish sustenance to any animal, except here and there a few wretched straggling sheep. Besides, it entirely cut off all connection betwixt the farms on either side; amongst which no intercourse was practicable but by a circuit of several miles.

The scene is already greatly changed. The following are the numbers of the inhabitants now residing in the moss; also of their cows and horses, and of the acres gained by them from the moss, together with their produce.

Men	-	-	-	115
Women	-	-	-	113
Boys	-	-	-	199
Girls	-	-	-	193

Total 620

Number of cows, at least	-	115
Ditto of horses and carts	-	34
Ditto of acres cleared from moss		300 *

The

* Since this account was written, the numbers of the above articles have increased considerably, and now, in May 1796, they are as follow :

Men,

The produce in bolls cannot be exactly ascertained; but, considering the goodness of the soil, may be fairly stated at 8 bolls per acre, *inde* 2400 bolls:

As oats are the staple commodity, the calculation shall be confined to that grain. According to the fiars of Stirlingshire, crop 1790, (the last crop for which they have been struck,) carse oats are valued at 14s. per boll. *Inde* 2400 bolls at 14s. is 1680l.

A track of ground so considerable, formerly a nuisance to the country, thus converted into a fertile field, filled with inhabitants, comfortable and happy, cannot surely be surveyed with an eye of indifference by any person whose mind is at all susceptible of feeling or of public spirit.

An excellent gravelled road, 20 feet wide, and a mile and a half long, is now carried quite across the mofs. By this means, in the first place, a short and easy intercourse is established between two considerable parts of the estate, formerly as little connected as if separated by a lake or an arm of the sea. Secondly, the inhabitants of the mofs, to whom, hitherto, all passage with carts and horses was impracticable for at least one half of the year, have now obtained the most essential advantage of being able, with ease, to transport all their different commodities at every season of the year. This road was entirely formed by the hands of the mofs-tenants, and gravelled by their own carts and horses: a work which, it will not be doubted, they performed with much alacrity; when it is considered that, to the prospect of procuring a lasting and material benefit to themselves, there was joined

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the

Men, women, and children	-	-	764
Horses and carts	-	-	54
Cows	-	-	201
Brick houses	-	-	102
Number of Scotch acres cleared from mofs			400

the additional inducement of receiving an immediate supply of money, the whole being done at the proprietor's expence.

The possessions are laid off in the manner best fitted for the operations; and are divided by lanes running in straight lines parallel to each other. Parallel to these again the drains are carried; and this straight direction greatly facilitates the progress of the water with its load of moss. Upon the bank of moss fronting the lanes, the operation of floating is begun; and twenty or thirty people are sometimes seen heaving moss into the same drain. That the water may be the more conveniently applied, the lanes include between them the breadth of two possessions only. The new houses are erected upon each side of these lanes at the distance of 100 yards from each other.

Before the formation of lanes and roads, and while yet no ground was cleared, the first settlers were obliged to erect their houses upon the surface of the moss. Its softness denied all access to stones; which, at any rate, are at such a distance as would render them too expensive. Settlers, therefore, were obliged to construct their houses of other materials. Upon the Low Moss there is found for this purpose great plenty of sod or turf, which accordingly the tenants use for the walls of their houses. For the rudeness of the fabric nature in some measure compensates, by overspreading the outside with a luxuriant coating of heath and other moorish plants, which has a very picturesque appearance.

But upon the High Moss there is no sod to be found. There the tenant must go differently to work. Having chosen a proper situation for his house, he first digs four trenches down to the clay, so as to separate from the rest of the moss a solid mass, containing an oblong, rectangular area, sufficiently large for his intended house. This being done, he then scoops out the middle of the mass, leaving on all sides the thickness of
three

three feet for walls; over which he throws a roof, such as that by which other cottages are commonly covered.

Upon the softest parts of the moss, even these walls cannot be obtained. In such places the houses are built with peat dug out of the moss, and closely compressed together while in a humid state*. It is necessary even to lay upon the surface a platform of boards to prevent the walls from sinking; which they have frequently done when that precaution was neglected. After all, to stamp with the foot will shake the whole fabric as well as the moss for fifty yards around. This, at first, startled the people a good deal; but custom soon rendered it familiar.

The colonists have now made considerable advancement in rearing better habitations for their comfort and convenience. Their huts of turf are but temporary lodgings. As soon as they have cleared a little ground, they build houses of brick; when the proprietor a second time furnishes them with timber gratis. It has also been found necessary to relieve them entirely from the payment of the burdensome tax upon bricks; a tax which surely was never intended to fall on such poor industrious adventurers; and which, without this assistance, would have proved a most effectual bar to the employment of these materials.

There are now erected in the moss 69 brick-houses, substantially built with lime. The total expence amounted to 1033l. sterling. And it is a very comfortable circumstance, that the money expended upon these houses is mostly kept in circulation among the inhabitants themselves: for as a number of them have learned not only to manufacture but also to build bricks, and as others who have horses and carts

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furnish

* This does not apply to the *morass*, upon the surface of which, it has been observed, it is impossible to erect houses in any shape.

furnish the carriage of lime and coals, they thus interchange services with each other.

With a view to excite the exertion of the colonists, the following premiums have lately been offered: 1. To the person who shall in the space of one year remove the greatest quantity of moss down to the clay, a plough of the best construction. 2. To the person who shall remove the next greatest quantity, a pair of harrows of the best kind. 3. For the next greatest quantity, a spade of the best kind, and 10lb. of red clover-feed. But as these premiums, if contested for by the whole inhabitants, could reach but a very few of the number, they have therefore been divided into six districts according to their situation, and the above premiums have been offered to each district.

The establishment of this colony has no doubt been attended with a very considerable share of expence and difficulty; for the undertaking was altogether new, and there were many prejudices against it, which it was necessary to overcome. At the same time it was noble and interesting: it was to make a valuable addition to private property: it was to increase the population of the country, and to give bread to a number of people; many of whom having been turned out of their farms and cottaries in the Highlands, might otherwise, by emigration, have been lost to their country; and that too at a time when, owing to the great enlargement of farms, depopulation prevails but too much even in the low countries. And it was to add to the arable lands of the kingdom, making many thousand bolls of grain to grow where none ever grew before.

These considerations have hitherto preponderated with the proprietors against the various obstacles that present themselves to the execution of so extensive an undertaking. Should their example tend in any degree to stimulate others,
who

who both in Scotland and in England possess much ground equally useless to the country, to commence similar improvements, it would be a most grateful consideration superadded to the pleasure already arising from the progress of the infant colony*.

* Since writing the above account, it was found that the inhabitants still laboured under two material disadvantages. *First*, That there was neither, within their reach, any public worship, nor any means of obtaining religious instruction in the Gaelic tongue; and the bulk of them are too imperfectly acquainted with the English, to be capable of receiving much instruction in that language. *Secondly*, The difficulty of procuring proper education for their children; the distance of the parish school from the greater number, being such as almost to preclude a possibility of sending them thither, and their circumstances not enabling them to support the expence of a teacher. In this situation it occurred that an application to the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, might probably be attended with success. For though, by the rules of that Society, its benefactions are confined chiefly to the Highlands, yet as almost the whole inhabitants of the moss are Highlanders, they seemed to have a well-founded claim to the aid of the Society. Application having accordingly been made by the proprietor, the Society was pleased to enter very warmly into the situation of these poor people, and with the greatest alacrity agreed to the appointment of an experienced teacher, who was settled in the moss at Martinmas 1793. This teacher, who is well acquainted both with the Gaelic and the English languages, officiates through the week as a schoolmaster, and on Sundays convenes the people in the schoolhouse, where he instructs them in the principles of religion, and says prayers to them in their native tongue.

In order to promote this establishment, and with a view to procure a teacher better qualified than common, the proprietor has engaged to contribute L. 5 sterl. yearly, over and above L. 10 a year allowed him by the Society, and the conditions commonly required by them, of furnishing gratis, a school-house, a dwelling-house, a kail-yard, fuel, and the maintenance of a cow. And as a farther encouragement, he has voluntarily given the schoolmaster free of rent, about an acre of carse land, formerly rented at a guinea.

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ADDITIONS TO VOLUME VII.

No. XIII. Page 149.

Parish of Kilbirnie.

Additional Communications from the Rev. James Adam.

Minerals.—There is much coal and lime and ironstone in this parish. Some of the limestone which is now wrought at Auchincloich is not above 8 or 10 feet below the ground, and very easily come at; it is generally cut out of the quarry in summer, then led away by the farmers to their farms, and there burned in kilns about harvest; and after that led out and spread upon the ground, which they intend to plough down in spring.

Some of the limestone in other parts of the parish, such as the Bashaw, Milnside, Glengarth, Barhill, and Lochridge is much deeper and seldom wrought. The stones are of a grey or yellow colour; many of them twinkling with mica and quartz, and some of them impressed with the figures of shells and plants. Coals are found here in great abundance, stretching in two or three strata in several fields. One stratum near the old mansion house of Kilbirnie is not above 5 or 6 feet below the surface, but as it is not very thick it is not much wrought; other strata in the Barhill and Lochridge are much deeper and yet wrought to great advantage.

There is one pit at present with a fire engine near the
Lochridge,

Lochridge, in which there are daily above a dozen of coalliers who cut and draw every day above 150 load of coals, which sell at 6d. the load.

The coalliers wages and necessary expences amount to about one-half of the produce. The rest belongs to the proprietor and the tacksmen; and might still be wrought to much greater advantage, especially iron, as there is much excellent iron stone near that coal pit, stretching along both sides of the Maikie Glen, where there might be an iron work with a blast furnace erected—there being plenty of free-stone, lime and clay, all near it for building, and water sufficient to turn any wheel or engine that might be necessary in such a work. Besides there should be, and will in all probability, in process of time, be a canal cut from the Clyde, somewhere below Renfrew, adjoining to the Forth canal and the Paisley canal, and coming up the Cart by the bridge of Johnstone through Lochwinnoch, and through Kilbirnie near the loch, and down the side of Garnock to Irvine, and even below Irvine to the Troon; the whole length being nearly 25 miles, and the expence would be between 20 and 30,000l. It would be of great service to the Glasgow and Paisley merchants and manufacturers in having their merchandize, &c. conveyed to the open sea for America and the West Indies in all weathers and on all occasions; whereas, they now sometimes lie 8 or 10 days wind bound at Greenock and Port Glasgow. It would also save 2000l. or 3000l. annually to the people of Glasgow and Paisley, in the article of coal, and as much in the articles of provisions of meal and eggs, butter and cheese. The meal in Ayrshire and Galloway is always 1½d. a peck, or 2d. or 3d. a stone cheaper than at Glasgow or Paisley; and a canal or water conveyance would soon equalize it, and raise it a penny here, and lower it nearly as much there. Yea, it could come much sooner and safer from

from Ireland to Irvine, and up the canal to Glasgow and Paisley, than it does now up the frith of Clyde to Greenock.

And as we would have 10 or 12 coal pits along the side of the canal, where we sell the coals at 6d. a load, or 2s. a cart, or 5s. a ton, the people in Glasgow could always have them at 6d. the cart, or near 2s. a ton cheaper than they now have them, or ever will have them, without such a canal.

It would run through some wealthy parishes, and by near a dozen of little flourishing manufacturing towns, such as Renfrew, Inchinnan, Kilbarchan, the bridge of Johnstone, Lochwinnoch, Beith, Kilbirnie, Dalry, Kilwinning, Stevenston, and Irvine, and could easily be supplied with water from Cart and the lochs of Winnoch, Kilbirnie and Garnock, through which, and near which it would go for the space of 10 or 12 miles.

No. XIX. Page 194.

Parish of Nigg.

*Corrections and additional Communications,
by the Rev. David Cruden.*

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- P. 195. l. 3. for 'side' read 'tide,' with a comma.
 195. 21. after 'grafs.' add, 'But the distinction is now
 'almost entirely done away here.'
 195. 22. for 'A mile from the south-west boundary.
 'There is a natural harbour, with very lit-
 'tle artificial help, the cove, &c.' read,
 'A mile from the south-west boundary,
 'there is a natural harbour, with very little
 'artificial help, the cove, &c.'
 199. 22. for 'turned low,' read 'burned low.'

- P. 202. l. 21. for '70 acres in turnip and in rye grass, and
'red and white clover.
'114 acres, part of which is cut for hay,
'produced food, &c.' read,
'70 acres in turnip, and in rye grass and
'red and white clover 114 acres, part of
'which is cut for hay, produced food, &c.'
204. 9. for 'villages,' read 'village.'
205. 3. for '480 $\frac{1}{4}$,' read '480, one yard and $\frac{1}{4}$,' with
a comma at 480.
208. 4. after 'Aberdeen,' add, 'except a very few
'who spin linen yarn.'
113. 1. '7s. 1d.' dele '1d.'
217. 7. for 'three,' read 'one.' It had been forgot-
ten that the crew of a boat coming in had
saved two of the men.

A view has been presented of the general effect of the division of the parish out of run-ridge, to the period when the account was drawn up. As an opportunity is now afforded, it may be proper to notice the progress, with some particulars of the improvement.

The tenants have generally proceeded in erecting better houses, covering them with straw and mortar, instead of a flight, temporary cover of straw ropes;—in clearing the ground of earth-fast and loose stones;—in draining wet land;—in making the ridges straight, and dressing the surface;—in bringing on lime;—and in using meliorating crops of turnip, potatoes, and artificial grasses. Both in personal labour and expence, they have exerted themselves.

The dung of the farm they lay on the ground in regular, successive order; disregarding the former distinction of out-field and in-field. They use proper rotations of crops. They

work with lighter ploughs, and fewer cattle;—with some new instruments of husbandry, and others improved.

A few more substantial tenants, whose grounds lie near Aberdeen, by driving dung from that place, along with other means, have brought them to a high state of cultivation.—From an exchange in respect to half of the glebe, for accommodation of a road, something was necessary to be done. The exchanged land is drained, where needful; freed from stones, inclosed, and improved. In a marshy part of the other half of the glebe, drains have been filled, and the surface made up by several hundred cart-loads of stones and earth.—Mr Robert Davidson, feuer of Balnagask, has his principal fields in great heart, producing, in particular, valuable crops of potatoes, cultivated by gardeners and others; and is making progress in clearing, manuring, and inclosing his poorer and more waste lands.—Mr Robert Smith, mason, lately feuer of North Loirstoun, did a great deal in different ways of improving both the wet and the dry ground; and built an excellent steading, inclosing part of the farm with substantial stone dykes. The improvement is carrying on, under the present proprietor; and in a little time four or five thousand ells of stone fence, inclosing above a hundred acres of arable ground, laid out in parks, where one was not before, will be completed.—Captain Charles Adamson improves with spirit his feu, both meliorating the arable land, and gaining on the moor.—Mr Colin Innes, surveyor of land, who possesses the largest farm of Mr Menzies of Pitfoddels, besides the usual modes of improvement, has covered six or seven acres of light black soil with clay. It renders the ground firmer to support a crop from lodging, more retentive of clover, and more productive. He also first introduced here, and first carried to any extent, the bringing in waste moor ground, without trenching, by the plough. After
raising

raising and removing the surface stones, he has, by a trenching plough, torn in more than twenty acres of stony, barren heath, repeatedly and in different directions ploughed it, taken off the stones, and divided it into small fields with straight ridges. Besides lime in sufficient quantity, he has brought dung from Aberdeen, on the whole at a great expence, laying it down, after turnip and grain, with grass seeds. It formerly was of no value, and seems improved at too high a cost for the short and uncertain term of lease. Such exertion deserves encouragement. Some acres more of detached pieces are brought likewise from a barren state; and about ten acres of moor are in progress of cultivation, and will complete the rendering wholly arable Torryhill, the top of which lay barren in the midst of a cultivated country.—Some individuals have begun to follow Mr Innes's example, in taking in ground with the plough from the moor.

But the most particular account of the manner of improvement, on a considerable portion of the lately divided and feued ground, appears from a letter, on the subject of the cultivation of his feus, by Mr David Morice, advocate in Aberdeen. As it also contains some articles which seem interesting and beneficial, and mentions some further particulars of the natural history of the parish, it is here inserted, except a few circumstances, and will give considerable information on the subject.

‘Middletown, 30th Nov. 1795.’

‘Rev. dear Sir,

‘In compliance with your letter of 13th instant, requesting a state of the improvements I have made in my farms in the parish of Nigg, I send you the following.

‘After the division of the barony of Torry, which composes the greatest part of your parish, I obtained, from the

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Master

Master of Mortifications of Aberdeen, feu rights of three lots of the east division of the barony, which fell to him, viz. Altens, containing about 132 acres arable, and about 200 acres moor, pasture, and hill ground; for which I pay 22l. 12s. sterling in money, and 24 bolls of oat-meal, of feu duty: and Middletown and Tullos united, containing about 32 acres infield, 70 acres outfield, and about 250 acres of hill, moor and pasture; for which I pay of feu duty 42l. 8s. sterling in money, and 46 bolls of oat-meal.

‘ Altens, you know, lies along the shore on the south side of the east point of the Grampian mountains, and Middletown and Tullos lie a little within the land on the north side: and they all join at the ridge of the hill.

‘ When I entered to possession at Whitfunday 1786, there was not a single inclosure upon any of the lots; and there was not a house of any kind either upon Altens or Middletown. The first thing therefore, of importance, which I did, was to build a good farm-house, and complete set of offices, upon each of these two lots. Upon Tullos there were some cottages, which were left in the occupation of the former crofters. After this, I set to work to bring the ground into some order, beginning with what had been ploughed at some former period.

‘ *Altens.*—The 132 acres on Altens were entirely of outfield ground, and skirts cut off from other farms in dividing the lots;—lay sloping from the hill to the sea bank;—and were encumbered with cairns of stones between the ridges, and many earth-fast stones in the ridges themselves.

‘ I have now removed great part of these stones, and by means of them have already inclosed with substantial stone dykes near 80 acres; and am proceeding to clear and inclose the remainder in the same manner.—Having found the arable ground

ground very apt to be hurt by surface water, descending from the hill and moor after rain, and by water springing out of the ground at the point of separation betwixt the heath and green ground; I contrived to rid the ground of both, by cutting a ditch, four or five feet in depth, along the foot of the moor, just at the point of separation. The earth taken from the ditch I threw on the lower bank; which served at the same time to form a sort of fence, and give free admission to the water coming from the moor into the ditch. This ditch had a wonderful effect on the lower grounds; and was contrived and executed long before Mr Elkington, and his mode of a similar nature, for which he has obtained a liberal premium from government, were heard of, and even before I had seen Nugent's travels in Mecklenburg, where the same plan is stated as having been practised many years ago.

' The laying dry the wet land below was not the only benefit acquired by means of this ditch; for by the water collected in it, I have been enabled to convey water into every one of my inclosures by cross ditches, and to flood, at the proper seasons, such of them as are dry. The flooding has had a very happy effect; and I have had great crops on the ground which has been treated in that manner. The flooding of land is perfectly well understood in this country, and has been practised above fifty years past, so that we have no need of any instructions from Mr. Stevens on that point.— On this farm of Altens, I now raise turnip, bear, oats, pease, tares and hay; and they all answer well. I have not yet had any great crop of potatoes on it, but no fair trial on proper soil has yet been made. This year I had oats about 6 feet high on ground, which at my entry was not considered worth 20d. per acre. I have, for improving this farm, used all kinds of manure which I could get hold of, lime, sea ware, fisher dung, sheep dung, stable-yard dung, and soot. And they all answer well.

well. I now render the carriage of my lime from Torry pier, within two miles distance, a very easy matter, as I bring it in return when sending the cause-way stones, which I manufacture in clearing my fields, to that pier, to be shipped for London.

I do not wait for the sea ware drifting in after storms, as is generally done, but in calm weather send out people in small boats along the shore, and cut it from the rocks at low water, and land it at a creek, which I have cleared out; and fitted with a small pier for landing lime, and accommodating fishing boats; though I have not got these last purposes yet entirely to answer. I have made a trial of sheep on this farm, and found they were tolerably profitable; but finding that to fatten them properly required more grass than I can yet spare from my horses, oxen and cows, I have for the present parted with them.—I have planted a few acres of rocky ground near the farm house with firs, birch, larix, aller, oak and willows, which hitherto thrive very well. And I mean to plant a great deal more, as soon as I can get the ground inclosed.

The sea banks produce a great deal of fine natural grass, among which I have found real yellow clover, with flowers as large as those of high cultivated red clover*. In summer the banks are covered with cowslips, and other fragrant wild flowers.

The coast along this farm is bold and rocky. In many places the rock is granite, but is difficult to work. In some places there are large distinct veins of quartz running thro' the rock: but though it is useful in glazing stone ware, I have never yet been able to find a purchaser for it. I could furnish

* In the bay of Nigg, near adjoining, grows the *yellow lily*, not common.

furnish many tons of it. In the rock are many caverns or excavations, arched in a very wonderful manner. One of these runs a great way under the land. The brig of *ae hair* already mentioned, is within this farm; and the breast of the rock on each side of the inlet which divides the islet from the mainland, is stupendous.

Middletown and Tullos.—On my farms of Middletown and Tullos I have cleared, drained, inclosed and cultivated ground to pretty much the same extent as on Altens; and on those fields I have raised very weighty crops. This year indeed they were rather too weighty for safety, and some of the oats, which were higher than the surrounding dykes, fell down under the rain and suffered a good deal.

At my entry to Middletown there was on it a swamp to the extent of nearly 20 acres, almost covered with water, and so boggy that even a person on foot could scarce walk upon it. This was owing partly to a little stream of water, which comes down the valley, being suffered to spread on it, for want of a clear channel being kept, and partly from the springs bursting from the foot of the mountain to the south of it. The first malady I remedied by cutting a clear, straight channel of 8 or 10 feet wide for the stream; and the other I remedied in a great measure by cutting such a ditch along the foot of the mountain, as I had done at Altens. After all finding some bogs remaining in places, which at some former period had been cast up for peat and turf, and were below the level of the surrounding ground, I contrived to drain them in this manner: I cast pits in the lowest places to the depth of 4, 5, or 6 feet, till I came to sand, filled up these pits with small stones, and covered them with turf, the grassy or heathy side downward, and then raised the ground by driving sand and earth from the neighbouring hill, and
laying

laying them on it. So that I have now turnip, that would sell for 10*l.* per acre, growing where there was formerly an impassable bog, not worth 1*s.* per acre.

‘ This last mode of draining is not precisely the same with Mr. Elkinton’s boring, but it is near a kin to it, and has proved as effectual, and has the merit of not being borrowed from him, since it was practised before he was heard of in this country.

On a similar piece of ground, to the westward of the farm houses, I have this year laid out a little Bleachfield, and erected a boiling house, where two of my daughters, carry on a little manufacture of linen threads: which, however, as well as the manufacturers, is yet too much in infancy to afford ground for any opinion of its probable success. It has been contrived to bring the stream of water coming from the westward through the middle of it; and it is intended to bring the spring water from the foot of the hills into the boiling house.

‘ I have now in a great measure inclosed the face of the hill rising south from Middletown, to the extent, as I guess, of nearly an hundred acres, for planting trees, and have, I think, already planted upwards of 100,000, consisting of Scotch fir, pines, larix, oak, aller, birch, mountain ash, planes, elms, &c. many of which are thriving exceedingly well, though within less than a mile from the sea. The oaks I have chiefly raised by casting up small pits by a spade, and putting in the acorn. I raise a good many plants in the nursery bed, but finding it expensive either to purchase or raise so many plants as would be necessary for so large an extent of ground, I have contrived to sow the ground at once with the fir and birch seeds, which I do in this manner:—I cause one man go along the ground with a turnip hoe in his hand, and by means of it scratch the ground at proper distances,
and

and another follow, dropping a seed or two into every scratch, and then pressing it down with his foot as he goes along. This seems to answer very well, and will, I think, save three fourths of the usual expence of planting.

‘ In digging a channel for the stream in the low grounds I found the remains of many trees, chiefly aller and oak, lying buried at the depth of 4 or 5 feet; but there was not a single tree or shrub growing on the farm when I got possession. On the very top of the high hill lying betwixt Middletown and Altens, there is pretty convincing evidence that it has been at some former period overflowed by the sea; as there still remain several little mounts, composed of rounded pebbles, gravel and sand, in pretty regular strata, such as still appear on the beach below.

‘ Having now nearly completed my improvements on Middletown, I am proceeding to similar operations on the south west parts of Tullos, which are in my own natural possession, the rest being let to tenants on leases for 19 years. And here, I find, I have still a great deal to do in draining the marshy parts and clearing the moor of stones. I have, however, great encouragement to go on, as upon examining the north face of the hill, which is at present covered with stones and heath, I find the soil a very rich and pleasant one, being mostly a yellow loam, with a mixture here and there of clay, black muir soil and sand, very capable on the whole of cultivation: and I expect in 5 or 6 years hence to have in cultivation in that quarter 50 or 60 acres, worth 2l. per acre, which at my entry did not yield so many pence.

‘ The only disadvantage, worth mentioning, which I find in all these operations is the want of ready money adequate to the extent of my fields, and my ardour for agricultural improvements: and I believe the same is the case with many others in this country, though they do not choose to own it.

The greatest encouragement therefore the board of agriculture and their respectable president could give us, would be to promote an agricultural bank in each county, at which persons improving waste lands might be supplied with money at a low rate of interest, on the credit of their farms, in proportion to the extent of their improvements; for repayment of which the bank might by law be declared to have a preference on the ground, immediately after the landlord or superior. This, I am confident, would have an effect infinitely superior to any little premiums which can be given, with less expence to government, and no risk. I hope it will some day be seen in this view by the honourable Board, and adopted accordingly.

‘The want of good roads in this parish is no doubt a considerable disadvantage; but that is gradually disappearing. I myself have on my several farms made out about 4000 ells of road at my own expence; and contributed besides considerably to the making out about 5000 ells more. These are not to be sure so perfectly completed as to afford easy communication with all quarters in winter: but that is owing to want of sufficient funds, and hearty co-operation of many who are materially interested in them. My horses, however, seldom lie idle a single day of the year on account of the roads, or indeed on any other account. During greatest part of the storm of last year, while the deepest snow ever seen here was on the ground, they were actually employed in gravelling the roads, and it proved very comfortable work both for men and for horses.—These improvements have been greatly encouraged by my liberal superiors; the town council of Aberdeen taking care, in feuing out the lands, to free them from all thirlage and payment of tythes, and all services, necessary parochial ones excepted. These advantages I of course communicated to my tenants: and some of them, who have got
leases

leaves for 19 years, are improving their fields, trenching in and clearing barren corners, and building comfortable houses for themselves.

‘ Although my general mode of inclosure is by stone dykes, I have tried both ditches and hedges. My ditches I generally make double ones, divided only by a bank of 6 or 8 feet of solid ground, on which is thrown the earth taken from both ditches, and on the top I sow whins or plant elder. I have sown whin seed on the back of the half dykes, by which the planted ground is in part inclosed. Whins thrive there and every where well, and will be soon both useful and ornamental.

‘ I have inclosed a kitchen garden at Middletown with hawthorn; and I have plants raised by myself in readiness for inclosing some other pieces of ground. They appear to thrive well.

‘ In the course of my operations in both farms I have trenched in with pick and spade a great deal of ground which had never been plowed before. At the Altens, in particular, I trenched in about one fourth of an acre behind the house for a kitchen garden, and found as many stones in it, as inclosed the garden with walls above six feet high.

‘ On the south declivity of Torryhill was a piece of heath ground, so steep that it did not admit of being ploughed. I therefore left it out in inclosing the surrounding fields, and resolved to make a garden of it, which I have done, and I have now roses and gilly flowers, and many flowering shrubs, strawberries, gooseberries, raspberries, and most kinds of garden stuff, with great variety of trees in nursery beds, growing where heath and whin only grew about three years ago. The hanging garden attracts notice, and is an ornament to the surrounding fields.

‘ I have a great deal more to say on these favourite subjects, but perhaps you will think I have already said too much, so that I shall only for the present add, that I remain always,

Reverend dear Sir,

Your most humble servant,

D. MORICE.’

‘ *The Rev. Mr David Cruden,* }
Nigg.’ }

No. XXXIV. Page 340.

Parish of Aberbrothock.

Answers by the then minister of Arbroath, to the queries circulated by Mr. Maitland, when he was about to publish his History of Scotland; communicated by Dr. Lorimer.

The abbey of Aberbrothock was erected for the entertainment of the Tironensian monks by King William, in honour of Thomas O’Becket, falsely entitled saint and martyr. However, this dedication, it seems, obtained for the inhabitants of Aberbrothock a grant from John king of England, whereby they were to enjoy the several privileges of his own subjects in all parts of England, London excepted.—Pope Benedict granted the abbot and his successors a right to wear the mitre, rings, robes, and other pontifical ornaments.

The receipts of this monastery in 1562 were, in money, 2553l. 14s.; 30 chaldrons of coals; 3 bolls, 3 firlots, 2 pecks of wheat; 143 chaldrons, 9 bolls, 2 pecks of bear; 196 chaldrons, 9 bolls, 2 firlots of meal; 27 chaldrons, 11 bolls of oats; 3 lasts and 1 barrel of salmon;—the small receipts by fines, beasts, poultry, &c. being omitted. The last abbot, being John Hamilton, second son to the Duke of Chateauhault, becoming a protestant, he was created Marquis of Hamilton

the

the 19th of April 1599; and the abbey being erected into a temporal lordship, King James the Sixth, by his letters patent of about the 5th of May 1608, granted the same to James his son. But it afterwards coming to the Earl of Dysart, Patrick Maule of Panmure purchased the same, with the rights of patronage of 34 parishes, viz.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Arbroath, | 14. Glamis, | 25. Longlie, |
| 2. Panbride, | 15. Kirrymuir, | 26. Guild, |
| 3. Arbirlot. | 16. Kingholdrum, | 27. Kinginie, |
| 4. Monikie, | 17. Newtyle, | 28. Banchory, or |
| 5. Muirhouse, | 18. Garvock, | Trinity, |
| 6. Dunnichen, | 19. Dinavig, | 29. Bethlem, or |
| 7. Mains, | 20. Abernethy, | Bethelney, |
| 8. Lunan. | in Fife, | 30. Forgue, |
| 9. Inverkeilor, | 21. Inverness, | 31. Tiree, |
| 10. Ethie, or St. | 22. Auchterarder, | 32. Tarries, |
| Murdo, demol. | or Mornack, | 33. Nigg, |
| 11. Monyfieth, | 23. Banff, | 34. Fitter-Angus. |
| 12. Clovoy, | 24. Gamery, or | |
| 13. Ruthven, | Gamefie, | |

*A Description of the Borough of Aberbrothock,
in the year 1742.*

Aberbrothock is a royal borough, which, with the borough of Aberdeen, Montrose, Brechin, and Inverbervie, composeth a district that sends a member to the House of Commons of Great Britain. It is situated at the mouth and on the east side of the water or burn of Borthick, whence it hath its name; and very probably hath its rise from a monastery of that name, founded by King William the Lyon in honour of St. Thomas O'Becket, close by the town, which was one of the richest in the kingdom. It was certainly the abbot's borough before the Reformation; although the charter of erection

erection from King James the Sixth, in 1599, bears a *novæ dona*, and assigns reason, that their old evidences of royalty had been abstracted by the bishop of Murray. Yet even before the Reformation the burgesſes had conſiderable privileges; being under the immediate juriſdiction of two baillies, whereof one was choſen by themſelves, and the other named by the abbot: and there is an agreement between the abbot and them, an. 1394, about building a harbour, to the perfecting of which both were bound to contribute, but the abbot was to be at the greateſt part of the charge, for which he was to have a certain yearly duty paid him out of every rood of land lying within the borough.

The town is compoſed of one ſtreet, running from north to ſouth, about geometrical paces in length; and another ſtreet about 150 paces long, being parallel to the ſouth end of the former, about 80 paces from it, and next to the water; with three or four bye lanes or wynds, and a ſmall ſtreet on the weſt ſide of the water. The whole lies on a flat almoſt, only a little riſing on the north part; and the gardens interſperſed and adjoining to the town take up about three times more ground than what is built upon. On the water there are two bridges of ſtone, one near the north end of the town, and the other near the ſea. The town contains about 250 houſes, and 2,500 inhabitants.

The town council cannot exceed 19 in number; of whom the provost, two baillies and a dean-of-guild are magiſtrates, the deacon-convener being *ex officio* a counſellor and one of the number. Their offices are of the ſame nature as in other royal boroughs in the kingdom.

The baillies' court, and that of the dean-of-guild, are courts of record. The convener and deacons of crafts make bye laws for regulating matters relating to the incorporations, but have no concomitant juriſdiction. There are ſeven trades incorporated,

corporated, viz. smiths, skinners, taylors, weavers, shoemakers, wrights, and bakers, each having their deacon; but these seem to have had no other foundation for their privileges than the charter before mentioned, erecting the borough, and empowering the community to incorporate the trades. The weavers are as numerous as all the other trades put together; and the greatest manufactory is coarse linen, which is commonly sold green, i. e. brown, and the greatest part sent to London. Of late, the most considerable merchants have set up a manufacture of white and check linens, which they are in good hopes to bring to perfection. Next to the weavers, the shoemakers are most numerous, and are much encouraged by the tanning of leather, which is here done to perfection; and they serve not only the town and adjacent country with boots and shoes, but furnish quantities of shoes to the merchants, who send them abroad.

The town had very little foreign trade till the year 1725, when they began to build a new harbour to the westward of the old, in which there was no safety for any vessels in winter storms. The work has been carrying on ever since at a vast expence for so small a town; and although it is not accessible for large ships, yet there are now belonging to the town about a dozen from about 120 to 50 tons burden, employed in trading to the northern colonies in America, the Baltic, France, Holland and Norway; besides vessels employed in the coal trade and coasting. The slate quarries, which lie within 4 miles of the town, afford outward carriage to the coal barges, who find a greater consumption for coals (as they are free of duty) than they are able to answer, so that great part of that article is bought here by strangers.

There are no remarkable public buildings or antiquities, except the ruins of the abbey or monastery; and these deserve a very particular description. The present church, of
which

which the king, as come in place of the archbishop of St. Andrews, is patron, has been built since the Reformation, joining to a tower on the corner of the enclosure of the abbey, which serves it for a steeple, having nothing in it or about it deserving notice. There are, besides the church, two private meeting-houses for public worship; one of the episcopal persuasion, and the other of the independants. The tolbooth is an old, mean building.

There are 3 markets in the year. The first, on the 20th of January, called St. Vigeans, in honour of the patron of the parish church: for both the monastery and the town were in the parish before the Reformation; and the parish which has been erected since comprehends only what is within the town liberties. The second is called St. Ninian's, and falls on the first Wednesday after Trinity-Sunday. He had a chapel dedicated to him about half a mile east from the town, near to the sea shore, adjoining to a fine spring. The last is on the 7th July, called St. Thomas's, no doubt in honour of Thomas Becket, reckoned the patron of the town. The weekly market was on Saturday, and ought by the charter to be so; but hath been changed to Thursday.

As to charitable foundations, there is an annual duty, called the Elymosinary, extending to 5*l.* or 6*l.* sterling, paid out of several houses and roads to the kirk session for the benefit of the poor; but how first constituted is uncertain. A mortification was lately made of 1000*l.* sterling, in money, lands, and tenements, for seven widows of shipmasters, (by John Carmichael, shipmaster;) of which the magistrates, ministers and kirk-treasurer, together with the treasurer to the fraternity of seamen, are patrons.

The first charter of the lands granted to the abbey by king William under his seal is still extant, and contains large endowments. The nobility and great men at the same time

gave

gave many lands; and these, by posterior endowments made by private persons, and the patronage of about 30 churches, of which the abbot commonly drew the parsonage tithes, or set them in tacks, leaving only the small tithes for the vicars, composed the abbot's estate.—In fixing the site of the abbey, the churchmen, who were good judges, pitched upon one of the most pleasant and fertile spots of ground in the county. It stands on a small eminence overlooking the town; with a fair prospect of the county, of the Frith of Forth and the river Tay on the south, and the country as far as the Grampian hills on the north.—There are many springs of fine water on the east side of the inclosure. One of these was brought in lead pipes, parts of which have been lately discovered in digging, for the service of the house; and the rest formed a canal which ran through the garden, or close, as the whole does now.

The soil is a brown clay of a great depth, covered in most places with a black mixed earth, which dries immediately after rain; so that it affords pleasant walking in almost all seasons.

The most valuable records of this abbey that escaped the fury of the reformers are preserved in the Advocates' Library; but some are still here.

To give some idea of the convent's manner of living, I shall transcribe from one of these volumes a part of the ordinary for the yearly provision of victuals to the house in 1530, or thereabout. There is appointed to be bought 800 wedders, 9 score of marts or oxen, besides kain marts and wedders paid by the tenants; 11 barrels of salmon, 1500 dried killings or cod; and to be consumed and eaten in the house: 4 score and 2 chaldrons of malt, 30 chaldrons of wheat, 40 chaldrons of meal; and other provisions in proportion. This would appear surprising, for I hardly find

there were above 20 or 25 religious at a time; but the ordinance bears, that sums appointed for buying provisions that year exceeded the appointments for the year 1528, notwithstanding the king's highness had been there twice, and the archbishop thrice; so that the great as well as the poor felt the fruits of their hospitality.

The privileges of the convent were extended even to England; for there is still extant, although much spoiled, an original charter of king John, under his seal, exempting them *a thelonio et consuetudine* in all parts of England, London excepted.

The abbey was all inclosed with a strong wall, the ground forming an oblong square, the length from north to south about 190 geometrical paces, and the mean breadth from east to west 113, the breadth on the north end exceeding the south upwards of one third. On the S. W. corner is a tower, which is turned into a steeple for the present church; and at the S. E. corner is the Darngate, which, from the name, appears to have been a private entry; over which was a house for catechising, and bore that name. The greatest part of the walls were standing within the memory of the present generation, but are now in a great measure demolished. On the N. of the square, and almost in the middle betwixt the two corners, stood the abbey church: a stately Gothic fabric, having a cross near the east end, and two rows of pillars, one on each side, with the side aisles without the pillars, from the entry to the cross church. The length of the whole is about 275 feet; the breadth of the body and side aisles 67; the length from the entry to the cross church 150; the length of the cross from N. to S. 165; the breadth of this last 27. There were two square steeples on each side of the entry, surrounded by round pillars on the corners, one of which stood entire until the great wind in January

1739. It is probable a great steeple stood in the middle of the cross: the view of the ruins seems to confirm this.

The floor of the body had been of tile, and the windows of baked glass. Pieces of both are yet dug up amongst the rubbish. The side aisles are paved with stone; yet seen, on digging. There is still so much standing of the edifice, as will shew the exact dimensions both as to the height, and form, and great variety of pilasters, carving, and other ornaments. Close by the church, near to the east end, stands the charter or chapter house. The lower part is a fine vault, entering from the church, and probably served for a vestry; above which there has been a square room, the roof long since taken off, where it may be supposed, from the name, the abbot and convent kept their chapterly meetings. This work is very strong, and closely built. To the west of the great entry of the church is the abbey gate, in form not unlike that at Edinburgh, but less; the walls above mostly standing: and west from that, on the south-west corner, are the walls of the regality prison, which have been very strong, having below two vaults, one above the other. Besides all these, there is now standing, and inhabited, but in bad repair, a part of the abbot's lodgings, with the vestiges of all the other buildings, which composed several square courts, close by.

The Earl of is heritable baillie of the regality. His deputies keep the head courts in the gate of the monastery, and their ordinary courts in the new church. He is not in use of exercising any civil jurisdiction, nor of judging of riots within the town; although, in crimes of moment, that are tried by juries, or that subject the criminals to great fines, he doth.

N. B. The above description was wrote by David Mudie,

C c 2

town-clerk

town-clerk of Aberbrothock, at the desire of Mr Maitland, the historian, in 1742.

The following is a copy of the charter referred to, as granted by king John of England to the abbot :

‘ John, by the grace of God, king of England, lord of Ireland, duke of Aquitaine, earl of Anjou; to the archbishop, bishops, abbots, earls, and barons, justiciaries, sheriffs, ministers of state, baillies, and all faithful in our realm, happiness,

‘ Wit ye, us, by the inspection and petition of William, king of Scotland, and by this our charter, to have confirmed to the abbots, monks, and citizens of Aberbrothock, that they can sell their proper goods, and buy them for their own proper uses, as they please, through our whole territories, without molestation from all public burdens, or any other custom which pertains to us, except within the liberty of the city of London. Wherefore, our will is, and we strictly command, that the foresaid abbots, monks, and citizens, may sell and buy their own proper goods, as they please, through our whole territories aforesaid, freely and without molestation.

‘ Given at Westminster the 4th of February, and of our reign the 7th year.’—Answers to the year 1204.

No. XLIX. Page 513.

Parish of Carsphairn.

Additional Communications, from the Rev. Sam. Smith.

I have been blamed for many omissions in the history of Carsphairn—with respect to the origin, extent and boundaries

daries of the parish, description of rivers, mountains, and game, and some other particulars for which that parish is remarkable—and which were contained in the manuscript. Abridgers who are unacquainted with the state of the country, cannot always judge what to omit and what to insert. When the narrative is very concise, and contains no extraneous matter, the writer has reason to expect that it will not be curtailed; and when his name is prefixed, he is responsible to the public. In making these observations, I have not the most distant intentions to throw any blame on your conduct, which, in this most laborious and patriotic undertaking, justly entitles you to the most grateful acknowledgments of the public in general, and of the clergy of the church of Scotland in particular, and to the merited esteem of your countrymen in future ages. They will, however, I apprehend, justify me, in your opinion, for transmitting you so abridged an account of this parish, which is neither small nor inconsiderable—an account which would have been much more full and copious, had the limits of your work permitted its insertion.

ADDL

ADDITIONS TO VOLUME VIII.

No. XX. Page 335.

Parish of Glenurchay.

*Observation on the Statistical Account of Glenurchay,
by Dr. Donald Smith, at Crieff.*

The Statistical Account of Glenurchay is well written, and such as might be expected from our good friend Dr. M'Intyre. I only regret that it did not occur to me some time ago to give him for insertion the particulars of the engagement in which the struggle between King Robert Bruce and MacDougall, lord of Lorn, was finally decided in favour of the former. It was fought on the western extremity of Dr. M'Intyre's parish, where the sound of Brandraw forms a junction between the lake and river of Awe. The ground is well described by Barbour, one of our most antient writers; and the generous feelings with which the occasion might be supposed to inspire the gallant lord of Lorn, are finely portrayed.—When in New-York, I had the good fortune to be conducted by Colonel Allan Stewart, a gentleman of Argyleshire, in order to hear some Gaelic verses, from a very old woman, who had emigrated from the island of Jura, that had been composed at that memorable period.

No. XXII. Page 384.

*Parish of Duffus.**By the Rev. John Reid, minister of that Parish.*

Name, Extent, &c.—Duffus, i. e. Dubuist, signifying the ‘black lake,’ is from 3 to 4 miles broad from N. to S. and from 6 to 7 long from E. to W.; contains about 1800 souls, young and old. This parish seems rather to increase than decrease in numbers, owing to small farms, and a populous fishing town.

The soil here is of various kinds. From 200 to 300 acres, lying on the side of the Loch Spynie, is a rich fertile clay; and produces excellent wheat, pease, beans, and oats, but not so fit for barley. The N. and W. parts of the parish are of a light, sandy, black mould, very fit for barley, which in this parish is preferable to most in Murray.

There is a great extent of waste grounds lying on the sea coast, covered with a kind of grass called bent, only fit for sheep pasture, bottomed with a rich clay, but lying too deep for improvement.

About 50 years ago, several hundred acres of the best ground on the sea coast were covered with sand, blown from the western coasts. Some parts of this ground is 3 feet deep of sand, and by trenching has been made fit to produce corn of all kinds; but the expence is too much for the returns, so that it must continue in a barren state. In one night, I am told, more than 14 inches of sand were laid on some fields by the west winds.

There are some limestone quarries in this parish, but, owing to the scarcity and dearth of fuel, cannot be turned to account. There is no moss, but a kind of sulphureous turf, which, when used in the houses of the tenants, destroys all the
fire

fire irons; even the locks and hinges of the doors are consumed by the smoke. The scarcity and dearth of fuel will in a short time render this and several neighbouring parishes desolate, if not prevented by taking off the duty from coals carried coast-ways.

The people here are poor in general, having no manufactures; though no country is better calculated for them, as it is very populous, and great quantities of corn are raised and exported.

Farming, which is the only means they have of living, is now become so expensive, that unless a man can with his own children manage the farm, he cannot afford to pay the rent and servants' wages. Their whole summer's employment is to carry their fuel the distance of 10 or 12 miles, to the great destruction of horses and carts. There is no wood within 10 miles, except some firs lately planted by some neighbouring proprietors; these, in the space of 20 or 30 years, will be of great service for fuel.

The people here are very temperate and industrious, consequently healthy. The only local disease is the scrophula, with which many of them are infected, owing, as some say, to the quantity of pease-meal and fish they feed on; others affirm it never was seen here till Oliver Cromwell's soldiers brought it under another name.

Natural Curiosities.—The most remarkable curiosities in this parish are some extensive caves on the sea side, where there are abundance of freestone quarries; and in these rocks are some very extensive grand caverns, reaching under ground farther than can be searched: some 100 yards, others more, in breadth, and from 60 to 100 yards in height; others smaller, but very prettily scooped out by the frequent washings of the sea.

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There is in this parish an old castle called the Castle of Duffus, concerning which, both tradition and history say little. It seems to have been built for a place of defence; the walls in some places are 6 or 7 feet thick, situate on a rising ground, surrounded with a ditch 30 feet broad, with a draw-bridge, the only place of access to it. Within the ditch or fosse, there is a fine orchard and garden, stocked with the best kind of fruit trees. The foundations of a number of houses are yet to be seen.

A story prevails among the country people that it was built by the Danes in the time of King David I.; others, that a family of the name of Cheyne came from France, got a grant of the ground from King David, and built the castle in this defensive state, because they had been guilty of some crime in France that exposed them to prosecution. The castle gave title to Lord Duffus, who about 60 years ago possessed these lands with many others in this country.

Broughead, or Burgus.—There is in the west end of the parish a place called Broughead, a village containing 400 people who live chiefly by fishing.

Here there is a small promontory jutting into the Firth, rising above low water about 20 yards on the west and north sides, fenced by perpendicular rocks on the east; the ascent is very steep, and now covered with grass nourished by the rubbish of the houses that have fallen to that side. On the south, the ascent is more easy, and was defended by three separate fosses, through which the sea was allowed to pass, arched over with draw bridges. The area on the top formed a rectangular figure; in length 150 yards, in breadth 50. This area seems to have been surrounded with piles of large oak trees, drove deep into the earth, forming a kind of rampart. Pieces of these piles are yet to be found among the rubbish

when digged into, and appear to have been destroyed by fire. On the west there was a place of worship, the remains of which still appear; also a burying ground, which the people of Broughhead use to this day. The whole seems also to have been surrounded on the top of the rocks with a very thick stone wall. From all that I can learn, this fort was built by the Danes, as a place of safety for their arms and other effects in times of danger, also a place of residence to some of their families. When, or by whom it was burnt I cannot learn. A fabulous story prevails among the country people, that a daughter of the King of Scotland was married to a Danish prince who used her ill, upon which the Scots King threatened revenge for the affront; and therefore, immediately after, the Danes came over, brought a number of pigeons and other birds, besmeared their feathers with tar and oil, set them on fire, and let them loose to fly through the different parts of the garrison; and how soon the Danes saw the flames, they fled with what valuables they could transport with them.

Some say this was a Roman fort; but from their progress northward, it is hardly credible they would have built such a place of defence.

The bay to the west of these rocks forms the safest and most extensive roadstead for ships in all the North Seas; and the shipmasters say there is not a place north of Leith that is so well calculated for a sea port. Ships of any burden could come in and lie in safety in the most violent storm, being defended on the north and east by the rocks; and the bottom of the bay consists of clay and moss; and if a few hundred pounds were well laid out, it would be the best harbour in Scotland; and, in the present situation of this country, it would be productive of the most advantageous effects, both in getting coals, and all mercantile goods imported, and
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parishes, is neglected; the salary only 7 bolls of barley; and the school fees so small, that no body thinks it worth their while to accept of it, unless some young lad for a year or two. It seems the present generation of landholders wish to extirpate learning altogether, in order to introduce ignorance and slavery among the lower class of people, else they would give some encouragement to schoolmasters; and the opposition given to a late application to Parliament for augmenting the schoolmasters salaries by the landed gentlemen, clearly marks their intentions.

Cattle, &c.—There are few sheep in this parish. About 500, of a small size, are maintained on the bent hills near the sea coast, but when fed are most delicious eating.

The farmers use horses chiefly for labouring and draughts of all kinds.

There is little or no meadow pasture, therefore black cattle are neglected; though about 20 years ago, they were more numerous, and consequently the crops of corn more plentiful: but as horses can be used with fewer servants, the farmers find it necessary to prefer them to oxen.—There is no market in the parish. At Elgin and Forres there are several fairs; from these the people are supplied with their necessities, and to these they must carry every article they can afford to sell, which occasions much loss of time. There are no distillers of spirits here. There are 5 or 6 houses in which ale and whisky are sold; to these the people resort when they are to transact business either in selling or buying.

There is a remarkable circumstance in this parish of a farm called Crofshill. It has been occupied by one family, of the name of Falconer, for 450 years back; and the tenant's name was James and Alexander, alternately. The last of them died only two years ago: this I can attest by some receipts for rents,
that

that fell into my hands after the death of the last tenant. The farm belongs to Sir Archibald Dunbar of Northfield.

The people here are well affected to the present king and constitution. The only grievances they complain of are the taxes on English coal, so necessary for them, on leather and salt.

There have been 13 Protestant ministers in this parish since the year 1569. The present incumbent has been minister since 1780.

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ADDITIONS TO VOLUME IX.

No. I. Page 1. *Parish of Rutherglen.*

Correction by the Rev. David Ure.

In the Account which I sent of the parish of Rutherglen, I believe I have committed a mistake about the weight of a cart of coals at Stonelaw. The expression, so far as I remember, is the following: ‘Some of them (carts) that lately were ‘occasionally weighed, contained no less than 33 cwt. of soft ‘coal.’ It should be, ‘contained no less than 26 cwt.’—And in the following sentence, ‘the whole, amounting to about ‘41 cwt. is drawn by a single horse.’ It should be, ‘the whole, amounting to about 34½ cwt. is drawn by a single horse.’

No. III. Page 26. *Parish of Golspy.*

*Second Account of the Parish of Golspy,
by the Rev. William Keith.*

Etymology.—Golspy is conjectured by some to have derived its name from the figure of the burn which runs by it, which, as it divides itself at the mouth, resembles a forky branch of a tree; and a branch of such description signifies, in Gaelic, *Gòrd*. Almost every shower of rain occasions a speat in it, and

and *speat* signifies in Gaelic *spaut*; which joined to *Goul*, makes *Goul-spaut*. This might be afterwards contracted and improved into *Gailspi*, which is the Gaelic name of Golspy. —But the most probable opinion is, that it got its name from the circumstance of a party of Gauls having landed at the mouth of the burn. Gauls signify in Gaelic *Gail*, and *spey* a running water.

This was of old called the parish of Culmalie, from a village 2 miles west of Golspy, near which the kirk stood. There are vestiges of that old kirk still remaining, and a burying place on the same spot, where it is said that 16 of the Thanes of Sutherland are buried. There are some who still bury there, though by far the greater part of the parish bury now at Golspy. In those days it is said that there was a chapel-of-ease at Golspy, for the accommodation of the family of Sutherland, who always countenanced the ordinances of the Christian religion; the family seat (Dunrobin) lying within a measured mile of Golspy.—It is unnecessary to take notice here of the antiquity of that noble family, as it is so universally known. It is clear that it existed as a considerable family several centuries before it obtained its present titles.

Extent.—It is 6 computed miles in length; and, including hill, moor and moss grounds, much about the same in breadth. The arable part of the land lies along the sea coast, from one end of the parish to the other; in some parts about a mile in breadth, in others less, and the greatest part of it almost a perfect plain.

Soil.—The soil is various. Part of it is deep, with a mixture of clay; and fit, with proper husbandry, to produce any kind of grain common to Britain. The greatest part is light; but is very productive of bear and pease crops, and potatoes.

tatoes.—A good deal of sea weed comes in on the shore, which is found to be the most productive manure of any, for one crop. All who have access to it, take the benefit of it; and it seldom fails to produce a rich crop, in any season.—The tenants in general continue to sow the common Scots bear; but there is barley in part sown in the farm of Dunrobin.—The whole arable land of the parish consists of about 1500 acres, and about 200 acres of pasture land; exclusive of hill, moss and moor land, of which there are several thousand acres, fit only for sheep pasture. It is remarkable, that a great part of the arable land has been in culture for time immemorial, and is still yielding good crops: a good proof of the fertility of the land, and as good a proof that proper farming is not practised.—Except a few farms in the hands of proprietors, and some other gentlemen, the general run of farms consist only of from 6 to 10 or 12 acres; and upon such small holdings little improvement can be supposed to take place. But the people are so numerous, in proportion to the quantity of land, and having no way to get their bread but out of the earth, the proprietors can do no more for them, than to divide their lands amongst them, and give to each such a share as can be afforded him. For they do not like that one man should be full at the expence of another's starving. The multitude of small farms in this, and in almost all the other parishes in the country, are much against the interest of proprietors; because, were several of them conjoined, the lands being contiguous, they would fetch a much better rent. But these gentlemen would not sacrifice their humanity to the most advantageous consideration of interest.—The greatest part of the corn and meadow lands are inclosed; in which circumstance this parish may be said to excel most parishes in the north of Scotland. But the truth of this matter is, that a great part of the lands is in the hands
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of proprietors. The farm of Dunrobin, occupied by Earl Gower and Lady Sutherland, consisting of near 500 acres arable, besides pasture land, and fir plantations and others, is inclosed. So is the farm of Uppat, purchased some years ago and improved by the late Col. James Sutherland, and now occupied by his son, George Sackville Sutherland, Esq.; which consists of 300 acres arable and grass lands, besides a large plantation of firs. There are three farms besides, which taken together consist of 200 acres, that are inclosed.

The yearly rent payable out of the lands is about 1000 bolls victual, and 200l. sterl. money; which, valuing the victual at 10s. per boll, makes 700l. sterling. But victual in these years sells at a higher rate, especially since the whisky stills were introduced: for though there are but few stills in all this county, the neighbouring counties of Caithness and Ross are full of them, which contributes to raise the price of victual here. Were the growth of this county used only for bread, there would be a sufficiency of victual in the county, at an average, to serve its inhabitants.

There are a great many potatoes raised in this parish; not many turnips, exclusive of what are raised on the farms of Dunrobin and Uppat.

Farm of Dunrobin.—This farm is perhaps, in proportion to its extent, one of the best in the kingdom; not on account of the goodness of the soil only, but likewise on account of its peculiarly favourable situation. Besides a south exposure, it is sheltered on the north by a hill extending from one end to the other, being 2 miles in length. There is a beautiful bank extending from one end to the other, most of it covered with trees of various kinds; upon the middle of which the house of Dunrobin stands. It lies at the distance of between 200 and 300 yards from the sea, except that part

whereon the house stands, which is not above 150 yards from the sea. The farm throughout is variegated with several patches of wood, some done by nature, some by art; but the corn fields are all regular. It is a mile in breadth at the west end, and gradually decreasing towards the east end; in all forming the figure of a triangle. It is as it were inclosed by sea and hill, with the advantage of a deep belting of firs on the north side on the face of the hill.

These circumstances render it peculiarly calculated for out-wintering of cattle, and for supporting a great number in proportion to its bounds. No beast need be housed there for good living; and very few are housed, except the labouring cattle. A continuance of the present management of it will certainly bring it in a little time to a state of very high improvement, and render it very profitable to the proprietor. Some of the land produced, this last season, 20 returns of oats; and if the season had not been uncommonly wet, the returns would have been a good deal more. This land, it is true, was in a state of rest for several years.

Kelp.—There is about 10 tons of kelp made, at an average, yearly in this parish, of the bell ware.

Proprietors.—Earl Gower and Lady Sutherland are proprietors of by far the greatest part of the parish. Mr Sutherland is proprietor of the lands of Uppat in this parish; and Capt. Alexander Sutherland has the lands of Culmalie in wadset.

Climate.—The climate in this parish is equally good with any in Scotland, far north as it is, by reason of its advantageous situation; as it lies by a smooth arm of the sea, and is sheltered

sheltered on the N. by a range of hills from one end to the other. It is in general very dry in the summer and harvest months; and even in the rest of the year there is not much rain or snow, compared to other countries, or even to a part of this same country: and when there is a fall of snow, it seldom lies long; the influence of the sun, and that of the sea air, soon wastes it away.

There are some instances of longevity. Some have attained to the age of near 100 years; but there are none living at present who exceed 80, except 3, but there are several bordering on 80. Well might they live long, in so far as little labour, wholesome food, and the best of air, tend to prolong life.

Disposition of the People.—Circumstances considered, they may be allowed to possess as good a disposition as any people in the world. For most part of the year, for all the work they have to do, they may be said to be idle; and it is not common to see idleness and virtue in company. And though they cannot be said to be free of all vice; yet there is not an instance of any one in this parish having committed a crime to incur capital punishment, or transportation, for time immemorial. A little application of the power of the civil magistrate, to check petty crimes, would render this parish conspicuous for morality.

Number of Cattle.—The black cattle in this parish amount to about 1200; 250 horses, and 1000 sheep. There might be more sheep, but the people are entire strangers to the proper management of that useful animal: but it may be supposed that a little time will enlighten them in that useful and beneficial art.

Fowls, &c.—Every kind of sea fowls common to the
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other shores of Scotland ; and every kind of birds, wild and tame, almost, that are common to the hill and low countries in Scotland, are in this parish. The migratory kind are, the swallow, cuckow, and French plover. There is red and black game in the hilly part ; partridges and other birds in the fields ; hares in the hills and fields ; and rabbits in the links. Sometimes deer straggle down from the Highlands to the planting of Dunrobin.

The fox has still a footing in this, and in every other part of the county, much to the detriment of the game. The fox kills the young of the deer wherever it finds them, and destroys the young moor-fowl ; nor do the sheep escape altogether his murdering plots. But, much to the honour of this county, upwards of 100 l. sterling is yearly expended by it for the purpose of extirpating that noxious animal. Every man that chuses may become a fox-hunter : and for every grown fox killed, there is a premium of 5 s. out of the sum above specified, for every fox cub, 2s. 6d. ; for every female fox having milk in her teats, or being with young, 20 s. When the fox-hunter kills a fox, he is obliged to come immediately and present the dead animal to the sight of a justice of the peace, or the minister of the parish ; and to obtain an attestation, in terms of his own declaration, of the parish and the name of the place where he killed the fox, specifying also whether it is male or female, old or young ; and if a female, whether or not it had milk in its teats, or was with young. After this ceremony is over, the huntsman cuts off the ears of the fox, in sight of the inspector, and carries them away carefully, to be kept *in retentis* till the 30th of April, on which day the premium is to be paid. On the 30th of April, unless it falls on a Sunday, the commissioners of supply and justices of the peace meet in the county burgh, chiefly for the purpose of transacting the fox business, where all the foxhunters

foxhunters in the country attend, and produce before the court all the fox ears they have, with the attestations afore-said; and after every examination that may be thought necessary, and their deposition to the truth of the facts contained in their attestations, they receive their money in full. The man that kills the greatest number receives a premium, over and above the modified allowance for each fox.

This county has taken this measure to extirpate the fox for many years past; and if the neighbouring counties of Ross and Caithness would adopt the same measure, this county would soon get rid of that pernicious vermin, and so would these counties too: But so long as they are allowed to live and breed in the neighbourhood, this county cannot by any means get totally rid of them.

There is likewise a premium for killing the eagle, because it is destructive of the lambs and kids. It is said that it kills grown deer, and if so, no doubt it will kill the young ones. As it is difficult to kill the eagle by shooting, several of them are killed by stratagem: the method taken is this—A miniature house, at least the wall part of it, is built on ground frequented by the eagle, and an opening left at the foot of the wall sufficient for the egress of the bird. To the outside of this opening a bit of strong skainy is fixed, with a noose formed on one end, and the other end running through the noose. After all this operation is finished, a piece of carrion is thrown into the house, which the eagle finds out, and perches upon. It eats voraciously; and when it is fully satiated, it never thinks of taking its flight immediately upwards, unless disturbed, provided it can find an easier way to get out of the house; for it appears that it is not easy for it to begin its flight but in an oblique direction; consequently it walks deliberately out at the opening left for it, and the skainy, being fitly contrived and placed for the purpose,

purpose, catches hold of, and fairly strangles it.—The same manner of process is observed in the case of the eagle as in that of the fox; the legs and claws are preserved, and presented before the court on the 30th of April.

Fish.—Some years ago, this parish abounded with fish of various kinds, especially haddocks. There were cod of various kinds and sizes, ling, skate, a few turbot, flounders, grey and white, some lyth, whittings, mackrel, and some others. Also shell-fish of every kind, except oysters; of which, too, if (as some say) they would multiply by planting them in smooth bays of the sea, and a firm sandy bottom, there might be plenty in this place. There are small trout in the burn of Golspy. Fish is still had here, but at a much higher rate than formerly; at no less than one penny per haddock, of a tolerably good size. About 10 or 12 years ago, 20 haddocks could be bought for one penny, only they were in general of a lesser size than the present ones. If our fishers were such as deserved the name of seamen, fish might be still plenty in this place, for there is still good fishing ground towards the Caithness coast; but, as our fishers formerly caught their fish almost within cry of their houses, they have not got fortitude, as yet, to go any great distance to sea.

Harbour.—There is an excellent harbour at the Little Ferry, where many ships might lie safely in all weathers; but there is a bar at the mouth of that arm of the sea, over which it would not be safe for any vessel exceeding 100 tons to venture.

Epidemical Diseases.—There are none peculiar to this parish. In the course of perhaps 3 or 4 years, sometimes more, sometimes less, the small pox, measles, and hooping cough, come round,

round. Sometimes, but not often, epidemical fevers make their way to us, to which the surgeon of the county (who lives in this parish) gives different names at different periods. Some of the old and young are cut off by them. The measles and hooping cough bear very hard on many children, but not many die of them. The small pox often prove fatal, as the people in general, are still prejudiced against inoculation. At the same time I am informed, that more than 260 children have been inoculated in this county, within the course of the last 20 years. It has been the wish of many, that the practice of inoculation should become universal, as it seems more than probable that it would be the means of saving many lives that might become useful to the community. In order to promote and extend this salutary practice, the benevolent Dr. Buchan has recommended to the clergy to act as physicians in this department. The clergy, to be sure, should do all the good they can, as well to the bodies and circumstances of men, as to their souls; and generally speaking, the people have more confidence in their minister than in any other; and besides it would go a great length towards reconciling them to the measure that the clergy would serve them gratis. But then there is one serious objection to the clergy's undertaking this business, and that is, supposing them to acquire sufficient skill in it, that the people would not follow the proper directions, and thereby the good end would be defeated, and the physicians discouraged, and determined to give up the business. Many professional physicians complain of this evil, and surely not without cause. Many in this county think spirituous liquors a cure for almost all diseases, and the poor child in the small pox is plied hard with whisky in all the stages of the disease, which never cures, but seldom fails to kill. Were there accommodations, however inelegant, erected in every country parish, in the best adapted

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ed part of it, sufficient to hold a number of children in proportion to the populousness of the parish, and some small allowance made for a surgeon, for attendance and medicines; in such event, the minister might have influence with the people, to let their children be inoculated, in such a place, on condition of his own personal and constant attendance together with the surgeon, until the children were out of danger. It would be worthy of men of fortune to adopt some plan of this kind, especially manufacturers, whose interest would gain much by an increase of the people. And perhaps it might be worth the while of a manufacturer on Clyde-side, or even on Tweed-side, as well as of one in Aberdeen, to contribute his mite towards the saving of lives in this county, at least until manufactures are set on foot in this same county: for many of the natives of this county have found their way to the south of Scotland within these few years past, several of whom work in manufactories; and, it is likely that new swarms will continue to go yearly from this to the south country.

Perhaps such an object as this might be worthy the attention of government.

Events.—The only event known to have taken place in this parish, worthy of notice, is a skirmish that happened in the year 1746, on the plain that extends from Golspy to the Little Ferry, betwixt a party of the rebel army, and those called the militia of this country; in which the rebels were put to flight, and the late earl of Cromarty, and several gentlemen of rank besides, who took part in the rebellion, were taken prisoners.

Roads and Bridges.—There are no stone bridges in this parish. There is a timber bridge on the burn of Golspy,
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and the like on the other trifling burns in the parish. The roads in general are in tolerable repair. The public road is for the greatest part made by nature, and that part will require no repair perhaps for ages. The statute-labour still continues in this place, which, as it has been found defective of its end in other counties, is so in this.

Curiosities.—There is a cave in the hill above Dunrobin, from which tradition says, there is a subterraneous passage, extending 4 Scotch miles, i. e. from the mouth of the cave to the south side of the Little Ferry. It is said that the late Earl of Sutherland employed two men, furnished with lights, and provisions of brandy, &c. to explore this dark prodigy of nature, and that after they had travelled several yards, they found the road partly so craggy, and partly so wet, and the air so pestiferous, that they thought proper to return.

There is a beautiful small cave at Strathsteven, in the east end of this parish, in which 8 or 10 people could sit. There is a seat cut in the rock on each side, and at each end of the cave, as if it had been done by art; but whether art had any share in the formation of the seat, or whether it was done by nature only, I cannot say. There is room for a small table in the middle. It is situated in the face of a bank within 140 yards of the sea; and there is a fine prospect from it of the counties of Ross and Moray, and of parts of other counties.

There is a cascade on the burn of Golfpy, within the policy of Dunrobin, and about a mile from the sea. No object of the kind, and of the same altitude, can exhibit more wild beauty and grandeur. It is about 50 yards high, nearly perpendicular, the difference not exceeding I suppose 7 or 8 yards.

Antiquities.—The only remains of antiquity in this parish are the ruins of two Pictish towers, lying one on each end of the farm of Dunrobin. Nothing remarkable is to be seen about them, except what is common to others of the kind.

The tower part of the house of Dunrobin is 700 years old, and thought to be sufficient still.

Coals.—Are supposed to be in this parish, as well as in other parishes on the coast.

Manufactories.—There are none in this parish worth calling such, nor any in the county except a cotton manufactory set on foot this last season, of which notice is, or shall be taken in the Statistical Account of another parish.

Manufactures, such as would suit the country, would meliorate the condition of perhaps every individual; and there is no country whatsoever better calculated for manufactures than this, first, on account of its populousness, and next, as there is an inexhaustible fund of fuel of the best quality in the whole country, except in the small strip of land on the coast.

This county will consist of at least 20,000 inhabitants; and there is not above 10,000 acres of land in culture yearly. Allowing at the rate of 2 men for the culture of every 10 acres, and any other requisite services, there will remain 18,000. Of the whole number, suppose 5,000 incapable of any kind of work, there will remain 13,000. Of that number, suppose 2,000 necessary for domestic concerns, there will be a balance of 11,000. The amount of 2,000 should be equal to all the necessary labour in husbandry, and the amount of 2,000 should be equal to all the necessary domestic business in the country; so that there is at the rate of 11,000, exclusive of children, idle in this country every day in the year,

year. And what immense wealth would that number, or even the one half of it, bring in yearly to the country, if properly employed!

Another advantage, by which the fitness of this country for manufactories will appear, is, that it is surrounded on all hands almost by the sea, on the south, north, and west. The very centre of the country is not above 15 Scotch miles from the sea. And besides various places on the several coasts, there are different places in the inland parts of the country that would be fit for manufacturing villages, where the ground is dry, the air good, and plenty of the best of water, as well as the best of fuel, and from which roads could be made to the sea at no considerable expence. On most of the strath-lands, the roads are very tolerable already, and a little expence would make them perfectly good. The proprietors of lands, especially Earl Gower and the Countess of Sutherland would be great gainers by manufacturing schemes being carried into execution, as the people in general, who cannot be supposed to have a comfortable subsistence on their small holdings, would flock to the manufactories, where they would live well by their labour; by which means, many small farms might be formed into a great one, and thereby the lands would fetch a far better rent.

Earl Gower and Lady Sutherland possess almost 9 parishes of the 13 of which this county consists; and if their people could be comfortably provided for otherwise, they could, by letting their lands in the Highlands to sheep farmers, get a very great increase of rents, and inferior proprietors would by the scheme gain their share.

On the other hand, the people would live far more comfortably; and in place of decreasing, they would, in the course of 20 years, increase to near double the number, as there would be no emigrations, and they have a propensity to

marriage, as early as they can get a hut, and are in possession of 5l. sterling, or as much value. But it is not the province of proprietors, especially great ones, to carry on manufactures; but were adventurers in that business to set up manufactories in this country, it is at least probable they would be very successful. It is true, that those of the inhabitants who are advanced in life, would work but slowly for some time, on account of a long habit of idleness; but the young would go chearfully to work all at once. It is well known that people from this country, who are employed in other countries, in different kinds of work, give entire satisfaction to their employers.

Number of Inhabitants —In the end of January last, an accurate list was taken of all the souls in the parish, and the number consisted of 1600. There is little alteration for several years past as to the increase or decrease of population in this parish. There would be an increase, were it not for some emigrations to the south, and that some small farms have been conjoined into a few greater ones.

Number of marriages from 1st Feb. 1792 to Feb. 1793, is 12.

Number of baptisms within the above specified time, 42.

Number of burials, 49. But, it is to be observed, that this exceeds considerably the average number of deaths in the year. Children who died of the small-pox make a great part of the number, and several died of those fevers which sometimes, but not often, assault these corners. Some years there is not a fourth of the number of deaths, and, at an average, there will not be above one half the number.

Minister.—The present incumbent, Mr. William Keith,

was

was admitted minister of this parish in May 1787. He is married 14 years, and has children, 4 sons, and 3 daughters.

His predecessors were Messrs. William Gun, Martin MacPherson, John Sutherland, and Walter Denoon.—Mr. Denoon was the first presbyterian minister settled here after the Revolution.

The stipend is 4 chalders victual, and near 32l. sterl. in money, besides a yearly gratuity of 100l. Scots, given by the noble family of Sutherland, for upwards of 30 years past, to the minister of Golspy, which makes the living in all about 40l. sterl. in money, and 4 chalders victual. The glebe is about the legal measure, and good land. The manse was built 27 years ago, and is sufficient. The office-houses are in tolerably good repair. The kirk got a new roof of late years, and is thoroughly sufficient in all its parts. The whole inhabitants of the parish are of the established church.

The prevailing language is Gaelic. Many of the people speak English, and several of them read and write.

State of the Poor.—The number on the poors' list, 5 years ago, exceeded 100. They are now reduced to about 65. The weekly collections do not exceed L. 6:10 in the year, that is, when Lord Gower and Lady Sutherland do not happen to come to the country. This, with the addition of the interest of between 50l. and 60l. sterl. which the noble family of Sutherland made a present of to the session for behoof of the poor, is all the fund in this parish for the poor, except now and then a trifle of fines that are got from delinquents. But as the people in general are not opulent, little assistance comes to the poor in that way. The trustees of the poors' money sometimes find difficulty to give to each as much money as will purchase a pair of shoes, to enable them to beg about for their bread. The farmers and others of eve-

ry denomination in the parish, serve their indigent fellow creatures as liberally as they can afford with food ; so that all the poor are tolerably well supported. When Earl Gower and Lady Sutherland are in the country, besides their liberal contribution on Sunday in money, the poor get a fat meal on different days of the week at Dunrobin.

Perhaps there are not so many poor in any parish in Scotland, in proportion to the population, as were in this parish 5 years ago ; but they were not all natives of the parish. Many of them, from several other corners of the country, chose to fettle in this ; and it is presumable that the profusion of fish led them to make choice of this place to settle in ; for the greater part of them lived in and near Golfsy. For, some years ago, fish was had by purchasers at next to nothing, and by the poor for nothing : and as even the poor like good things, the most eligible place to them was where good things could be had. Since fish became scarce, and none to be had, but at a high price, we have got no new comers of the mendicant tribe, and several of the old poor have died.

The Years 1782 & 1783.—The crop 1782 suffered universally over this country, especially in the Highland parts. Yet, though the crop on the coast fell short of the usual quantity, there was so much of it, as not only served the inhabitants, but afforded relief also to the Highlanders. On the whole, the crop of the country supported the people over all, besides a reserve of feed for the whole country, till the beginning of April 1783. At that period, the Countess of Sutherland sent a supply of foreign victual ; and her Ladyship continued sending a supply from time to time of barley, pease, and rye, to the amount in all of 6000 bolls, until the new crop came on.

It appears that the crop of the country maintained the inhabitants,

habitants, with the average addition of about 2 firlots of foreign victual to each individual. No person in the country died for want of bread. Those who had, supplied those who wanted. And whatever Lady Sutherland might have lost in interest, she gained as much at least by the inward satisfaction of having relieved the distressed.

There was great loss of cattle in spring 1782 by the severity of the season, but there were very few disabled from keeping their farms; and though several were brought to the verge of bankruptcy, yet, by lenity and indulgence on the part of the proprietors, they in a few years recovered their circumstances.

April 22d, 1793.—At this period, a regiment of Fencible men is newly raised in this country. In consequence of Earl Gower's having undertaken to raise a fencible regiment in this country, Colonel Wemyss of Wemyss the Colonel-Commandant, and the Honourable Colonel Stewart the Lieutenant-Colonel of the regiment, began to recruit on the 23d of March, and in the course of 8 days recruiting they completed their number with a considerable overplus.

Wherever they displayed their colours, the people flocked to them in multitudes from every corner, testifying their loyalty to their king, their zeal for the constitution, and their attachment to their superiors Lord Gower and Lady Sutherland. Colonel Wemyss commanded the fencible regiment of this country in the years 1779, 1780, 1781 and 1782, and the people's attachment to the Colonel had its share too, in their alacrity to engage in the service.

In the course of the few days recruiting, many more good men might have been had; but as the commission was too limited for this country, only the pick of the men were taken, to the mortification of many that are left.

In less than 3 weeks after the commencement of the recruiting, this regiment was ordered by the Commander-in-Chief to go upon hazardous service; and that very day four weeks from the commencement of the recruiting, several companies of them set off to Inverness, to quell commotions that had arisen in that town, about corn shipping in the harbour there; the mob, to the amount of 3000, alledging that it was intended for a supply to France. They took much of the corn out of the vessels, and sold it as they pleased. Threatenings of an alarming nature had been uttered by the mob after that, which made the interference of military force necessary.

It is perhaps an unheard of thing, a regiment being raised, and sent upon service, within the space of 4 weeks.

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ADDITIONS TO VOLUME X.

No. XXXII. Page 461.

Parish of Lochbroom.

Additional Communications, from the Rev. Roderick M^r Rae.

That the Highlands may be improved in several respects, appears evident upon a little reflection. They may be improved in agriculture, in manufactures, and in fisheries. But, as a necessary preliminary to these improvements, the making of proper roads and bridges, so as to open an easy communication betwixt the Highlands and Lowlands, and from one part of the Highlands to another, is an object which merits the attention of the legislature. With this view, the roads leading to Pollew and Lochcarron, as they are the channels of conveyance to the west coast and Hebrides, ought to be formed upon the same plan with the Lochbroom road, where carts and horses can now travel with the greatest ease and expedition, either by night or by day. These other roads are by no means less worthy of notice. After paving the way thus far for improvements; in order to encourage agricultural exertions, landholders ought to give their tenants longer leases than usual, suppose twenty years or upwards. Nothing discourages a tenant more than a short lease. In this case, he reasons with himself, that too great exertions in improving his farm might be a mean to augment his rents, before he tastes the fruit of his labours, or to

tempt his neighbour to outbid him at next set, not far distant.—As a farther inducement to agricultural improvements, perhaps it might have a good effect if the landholders should, after the laudable example of the Highland Society upon a larger scale, each upon his own estate, distribute among his tenants some little premiums for improving a spot of ground here and there. Furnishing them with tools and instruments of husbandry might also be to some purpose.—As to fisheries; I have long been of opinion, that a village consisting merely of professional fishers could never exist in the Highlands. Their success in fishing is perfectly precarious, and, even if it were otherwise, they are at a distance from markets. But if the soil was cultivated, so as to furnish the necessaries of life upon easy terms, and manufactures set up in proper situations; inhabitants of various descriptions would flock in from all quarters, and would in all probability in the course of a few years form populous and flourishing villages. In such a state of things, there would not be wanting abundance of persons to prosecute the fishing, with the utmost vigour, of their own accord.—In the meantime, I must observe, that an alteration on the salt laws is much required. They seem to be rather strict and intricate for the present state of the Highlands.—The extension of useful knowledge, also, would have a happy tendency to rouse the Highlander to attend to the means of improving his country. For this purpose, schools and missions ought to be established in as many situations as possible. From want of these means of instruction, the present state of the Highlands is truly deplorable; and it is rather unfortunate that the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge should have adopted regulations which stand as a bar to the benefits of the institution. Schools of industry, as for spinning, sewing, net-making, &c. should likewise be established.

I wish

I wish you could get some schools established at Derrynafuaran. One for literature, and another for the other useful purposes just now mentioned, would much improve the poor people here. It is a hard case if the Society at Edinburgh refuse to concur with you in so laudable an undertaking.

If the Pollew road was made the establishment of a packet boat betwixt Torridon and the isle of Sky, it would be of much benefit to this coast and the Western Isles. The road betwixt Torridon and Kinlochew should also be repaired, if not wholly new-modelled. Even as it stands, it must be owned to be of great service, not only to your own tenants, but also to their neighbours. It seems to be one of the best improvements ever attempted in this country.

By promoting the improvements suggested above, the state would be strengthened, the landholders would be benefited, and the situation of the Highlanders themselves rendered much more comfortable.

ADDITIONS TO VOLUME XII.

No. XVIII. Page 215.

Parish of Glenmuick.

Additional Communications, from the Rev. George Brown.

There is a strange inaccuracy concerning the poor's funds in the printed report of these parishes. The written report stated, that, besides 169*l.* sterling, settled in a gentleman's hands for the behoof of the poor, a Mrs Elizabeth Farquharson of Jamaica, a native of the parish, left at her death 400*l.* sterling to these parishes; 200*l.* were to be settled for the poor, the interest of which they were to draw yearly: and the other 200*l.* were to be settled likewise, and the interest of them to be given as a salary to a schoolmaster yearly, to teach the poor children in these parishes, *for ever*. But the trustees, appointed by Mrs Farquharson to manage this part of her will, took no concern with it for upwards of 20 years after her death. At last, however, one of them, by means of his son, then in the island, recovered the original 400*l.* with 200*l.* of interest; which made 300*l.* to the poor, and 300*l.* to the school. When the report was sent up, none of the money was applied to the purposes for which it was intended. But the poor now draw 14*l.* yearly as the interest of their 300*l.*; though no step has hitherto been taken to establish the school.—I shall put down all the money belonging to the poor separately as they receive it.

From

From the old fund of 169l. and lent out	}	L. 8	9	0
on interest at 5 per cent. -				
From Mrs Farquharson's 300l. -		14	0	0
From the annual collections - -		12	9	0
Yearly income of the poor, L.		34	18	0

No. XXXVIII. Page 568.

Parish of Cambusnethan.

Additional Information.

In the Statistical Account of the parish of Cambusnethan, given in Vol. 12th, No. 38, in a note subjoined to page 572, mention is made that there were several persons in the parish whose age exceeded 90 years. As these persons are now dead, it may not be improper to specify their names and ages, as instances of longevity.

The persons therein alluded to were two very respectable ladies, Mrs Margaret and Mrs Anne Hamiltons, both daughters of the deceased James Hamilton, Esq. of Dalzel, who then lived at the house of Muirhouse in that parish. Mrs Margaret Hamilton was born on the 22d day of February 1700, (O. S.) and died on the 7th of April 1797, aged 98 years; and Mrs Anne Hamilton was born on the 16th day of January 1703, (O. S.) and died on the 15th day of April 1796, aged 94 years.

It is proper here to add, that their youngest brother-german, James Hamilton, Esq. of Browncastle, (who was also proprietor of the lands and house of Muirhouse above-mentioned,) died in June 1788, aged 91. Such instances of longevity in one family, and in one generation, seldom occur; and it is particularly remarkable, that Mrs Margaret
Hamilton,

Hamilton, who lived to the greatest age, retained her mental faculties to the last. It may be further added, as to other instances of longevity in that family, and in the same generation, that Mr Archibald Hamilton, eldest son of the said James Hamilton, Esq. of Dalzel, and who succeeded him in that estate in the year 1727, died in the end of December 1774, aged 81 years; and that Mrs Jean Hamilton, another daughter of the said James Hamilton, Esq. of Dalzel, who was married to James Roberton, Esq. of Bedlay, died in April 1784, aged 83 years. So that there were 5 persons of one generation in a family, and all descended from the same parents, whose ages joined together make up 447 years.

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ADDITIONS TO VOLUME XIII.

No. XXXI. Page 500.

Parish of St. Martin's.

The inhabitants of the parish of St. Martin's, being numbered in May 1794, were found to amount to 1090.

Of the above number,	{	Males	541
	{	Females	549
			1090

Under 10 years of age, 306—	Of these,	{	Males	145	
			Females	161	
From 10 to 20, - 285—	Of these,	{	Males	152	
			Females	133	
From 20 to 50, - 381—	Of these,	{	Males	180	
			Females	201	
From 50 to 70, - 103—	Of these,	{	Males	54	
			Females	49	
From 70 to 100, - 15—	Of these,	{	Males	10	
			Females	5	
				1090	1090

Number of householders, - 215

No.

No. XXXVIII. Page 587.

*Parish of Langholm.**Additions and Corrections.*

Page 587. All the notes in this and the subsequent page, except ‘formerly a menſal pariſh belonging to the biſhop of Galloway,’ and ‘from which the noble family of Morton, it is ſaid, derives its title, and not from *Morton* in *Nithſdale*, as is commonly ſuppoſed,’ made a part of the *text* in the M.S. As the ſentence ſtands at preſent, it is heavy and almoſt unintelligible.

Page 591. The parentheſis in line 2d, viz. ‘the ingenious author of the Eſſay upon *Tuneſ*’ is a *note* in the MSS.; and the gentleman entrusted with the publication of this volume, without having conſulted either Mr Maxwell or Mr Martin, inſerted the note at the bottom of this page. As this note exhibits a very imperfect view of this work and of the diſcoveries therein contained; and ſeems rather to convey an idea of a piece of patch-work, ſimilar to the productions of former writers upon the ſubject, rather than an inveſtigation of principles; the author requeſts that what follows may be inſerted in place of it.—‘ Although muſic, as it
 ‘ has hitherto been practiſed, yields great delight; yet it is
 ‘ well known to muſicians, that all our inſtruments, when
 ‘ in beſt preparation, are ſenſibly defective in point of true
 ‘ tune; and that the human voice, when unſupported by
 ‘ theſe imperfect inſtruments, naturally ſlides ſtill more out
 ‘ out of tune. From the earlieſt accounts of Greek literature, the greateſt philoſophers and theorifts have been
 ‘ forced to inconfiſtency in the nature of tuneful ſounds.
 ‘ Strange! that the laws of harmony itſelf ſhould be found
 ‘ to be diſcordant. This eſſay, (publiſhed in the year 1781,)
 ‘ after

‘ after pointing out a few experiments upon the *fiddle*, exhibits a simple and even obvious solution of all the supposed inconsistencies; makes large discoveries in what may be called the elements of tune, and properties belonging to the scale of music, which have hitherto lurked in concealment. It banishes temperament, which, like a mist, obscures the intense beauties of harmony. It shews that the system, which has hitherto been understood to be inconsistent in its parts, and limited to twelve signatures, or twenty-four keys major and minor, is truly and perfectly consistent in all its parts, and likewise infinite in its progression. It exhibits a simple system of three signatures only, in *naturals*, in *sharps* and *flats*; which, instead of tempered, that is, imperfect intervals, is capable of supplying musical composition with true tune in every point, both for melodies and their accompanying harmonies; and applies the whole practically to instruments of the violin species; showing how to find the true intonation of every note in every key major and minor of the received system: and likewise to keyed instruments, by shewing the degrees of tune requisite, and the manner of tuning them, whereby other instruments may likewise be reformed. In short, it vindicates the laws of nature from the imputation of inconsistencies, hitherto deemed insurmountable; and leaves us to wonder where the difficulty lay, which has hitherto baffled the learned in all ages.’

Page 593, lines 17 and 18. ‘ A small sea-port on the Solway Frith’ is a *note* in the MSS. after *Sarkfoot*; not *Longtown*, which is several miles from the sea.

Page 606. After the 4th line the following sentences (in the MSS.) are left out; and as the facts they contain were required to be stated, and as Mr Martin observes that they are inserted in other accounts, both prior and posterior to the

publication of his, he has just cause to expect that they will be inserted in the Appendix.—‘ Mr Thomas Martin, a bachelor, was ordained minister of Castletown, March 16, 1791, and translated to Langholm the 11th of August following. His predecessors in Langholm were, Messrs. Graham, Meikle and Dickie. The Rev. John Dickie was translated from Dunscore, in the presbytery of Dumfries, (where he officiated 11 years,) to Langholm, January 21, 1748, and resigned the 12th of October 1790. He still enjoys perfect health at Edinaburgh, (though, as it is said, in his 95th year;) and report says, that, during 54 years incumbency, he was only *twice* incapable of performing divine service from bad health! A blessing few enjoy, uninterrupted, for so long a period!’

Page 607. Besides the first sentence which is corrected at the end of the 13th volume; two notes are crowded into the text, viz. the parenthesis in the 15th line, ‘ so called from being *chequered* or *striped*,’ and ‘ Mrs Carruthers.’

Page 608, line 21. Instead of ‘ greese,’ read ‘ grease.’ In line 22, ‘ annual’ is omitted before ‘ amount of 4000l.’

Page 610. In lines 20, 21 and 22, the parenthesis after ‘ shoemakers’ is a note in the MSS. after ‘ *cloggers*’ or ‘ *clog-makers*,’ as explanatory of their occupation.

Page 613. Read the first sentence, ‘ Instead of banishing,’ &c. with a point of interrogation, as in the MSS.

Eminent Men.—Mr Maxwell, (already mentioned;) John Pasley, Esq. (brother to the brave Admiral Sir Thomas Pasley, Bart. who so signally distinguished himself by his gallant conduct on the *ever memorable first of June* 1794,) an eminent London merchant, not more distinguished by the smiles of fortune, than by the benevolence of his heart; Mr Mickle, (alias *Meikle*, according to his father’s orthography,) the celebrated

brated translator of *Camoens' Lusiad*, and other poetical works of merit; Colonels Matthew Murray*, and John Little, who have both served with great credit for many years in India. Colonel Little was honourably distinguished by the brave Marquis Cornwallis, for his able and gallant conduct, while he commanded the Bombay detachment, serving with our ally the Marhattas, in the late glorious war against Tippoo Sultan, and by whom he was recommended to the Bombay government in the strongest terms, which, together with the high opinion that government had of his meritorious services, induced the council to confer upon him the appointment of Quarter-Master-General of the Bombay establishment, as an acknowledgement of his eminent services.—Capt. George Maxwell, R. N. who, when Captain Graham of the Preston was severely wounded in the memorable engagement with the Dutch off the Dogger-Bank, August 5, 1781, assumed the command when she was in the most imminent danger, and bravely beat off the two ships of the Dutch fleet with which the Preston had to contend; and for which skilful and gallant conduct, he received the public thanks of the Admiral.—Ralph Irvine, M. D. who died in India in 1795, was a young physician of great eminence, and made some valuable discoveries in the line of his profession.—William Keir, Esq. director of works and improvements upon the Duke of Buccleugh's estates in Scotland, though not a native of Langholm, is distinguished as a gentleman of science; of which the engine (vide the Account of Canobie) and other machinery lately erected at his Grace's coalworks at Byreburn, and the beautiful wooden bridge, of 103 feet span, uniting elegance with strength, lately thrown over the Esk †, on the west side of Langholm Lodge, afford ample proofs.

H h 2

The

* Lately returned, and now resident at Langholm.

† September, 1796.

The fine appearance of this bridge attracts the attention of travellers, as they enter or leave the north end of the town. —As a youth of singular talents, I cannot omit mentioning Lieutenant Charles Pasley, of the Royal Artillery, (a relation to the brave Admiral of the same name.) At the age of 12, he was as great a proficient in Latin, Greek and French, as his master, eminent in his profession, could make him. He acquired mathematics almost intuitively. No task in algebra was difficult to him. Drawing without the aid of a master, printing with a pen in a neat and beautiful manner, and writing verses, in which he discovered much fancy and humour, were the subjects of his amusement. His ‘Wars of Langholm,’ a Latin composition, are not only replete with genuine humour, but also classically correct. His taste for history and voyages was insatiable; but he could not endure novels, or any of that light reading, of which young people are generally so fond. To the great acuteness of his understanding, he added also a most retentive memory. His years considered, (going 17,) he certainly possesses extraordinary and almost universal abilities. About two years ago, he was appointed a cadet of the Royal Academy at Woolwich; and about two months ago, promoted as above.—It would exceed the bounds allotted to a report of this kind to mention many other young men who have gone from this parish to India, and other places abroad, and are promising to do much credit to their *natale solum*, in the army and navy; and in the medical and mercantile professions. No parish, perhaps, in Scotland, of its extent, can produce such a number.

I mean no disrespect to the above respectable list, by adding to it the name of Archie Armstrong, who, after having long distinguished himself as a most dextrous sheep-stealer, and when Eskdale at last became too hot for him, on account of his nefarious practices, had the honour of being appointed

justice

jeſter to James I. of England, which office he held for ſeveral years; but becoming obnoxious to Archbiſhop Laud, and other great men then about court, who had often ſmarted under the ſeverity of his poignant wit, he was at laſt diſmiſſed; and what afterwards became of him hiſtory ſaith not.

Page 614. When Mr Martin ſtated, ‘that 8 miles of the road from Langholm to Annan were *formed* by William Pultney, Eſq. (now Sir William,) M. P. at his own private expence,’ he meant, were *marked out*, not *made* or *finiſhed*. Had ‘*formed*’ been printed as in the MSS. in italics, his meaning would have been perfectly underſtood. That road was *made* by Act of Parliament, and a toll-bar to keep it in repair was erected at Solway Bank as ſoon as it was completed.

Langholm, March 14, 1798.—Since October 1793, when the Statistical Account of Langholm was written, the cotton manufactory has been reſumed, and is now carrying on to a greater extent than formerly. Mr James Carruthers has carried on the making of *candle wick* upon a large ſcale for theſe three years paſt; and the manufactories of *checks* and dyed *threads* carried on by him, by Reid, Yeoman & Co. by Hope & Sons, and other individuals, is ſucceeding beyond expectation, inſomuch that another company are about to embark in the ſame branch immediately. Inſtead of *one* ſtocking manufactory, there are now *two*; and the ſtockings (from 2s. 6d. to 5s. and 6s. a pair,) as well as the *dyed threads* are in ſuch repute that the increaſing demands cannot at preſent be answered. Under the patronage of the Duke of Buccleugh, the liberal patron of induſtry, and of whatever has a tendency to promote the public good, Meſſrs Irvine & Co. have erected a large building upon the river Ewes, in order to carry on the ſpinning of woollen yarn, which began buſineſs about a

year

year ago ; and, from present appearances, there is every reason to believe that such a manufactory, from its local advantages, will be amply successful. The house is 80 feet by 30 within the walls, and 4 stories high. Messrs Little & Co. are also erecting buildings and machinery upon the river Esk (on Mr Maxwell's estate) for a paper manufactory. In short, from the rapid progress that Langholm has made in manufactures, during these last 5 years, it has every appearance at present of soon becoming a very considerable manufacturing town.

ADDI-

ADDITIONS TO VOLUME XVI.

No. XX. Page 358.

Parish of Peterculter.

Additions by the Rev. Mr Mark.

One thing has been omitted, of which it had, perhaps, been proper to have taken some notice. I mean the practice of carrying cripple beggars through the country on a handbarrow or wooden frame, for the purpose of collecting alms. The times chosen for their circumportation, are generally those of sowing and reaping; when it is difficult to find hands to carry them from place to place, without interrupting the work of the season. Were it not better, that the parishes to which these cripples belong, should be obliged to maintain them at home? If they cannot afford them sufficient maintenance, neighbouring parishes ought to assist them.

I was in some suspense about my political conclusion, whether I should send or retain it. As I sometimes met with grumblers, and frequently heard complaints, such as those mentioned; as I now and then perceived a tendency to democratical principles, I thought my observations might be considered as characteristical of some classes of people in our times: I thought that some general reflections would be more useful than a long closely prosecuted argument; and as the work of which your Honour has the merit, will probably exist as long as any human production, I thought they might be read when political pamphlets were lost, and might be read with less prejudice, when the rage of political frenzy had subsided.

I do

I do not make my clerical survey of my parish in spring, and at once. As soon as the harvest is got in, I begin to visit on Sabbath afternoons; and continue through winter and spring, when I have moon light, until my parochial survey be completed. I then find the people at more leisure, and in a better habit of body and mind; and I am thus prevented from being taken up with idle company at home on the Sabbath evenings.

I beg leave to offer my compliments of condolence on the mournful event of the demise of Lady Janet Sinclair, Sir John's worthy mother, and a lady eminent for rational piety. Nigh 30 years since, I was employed by my friend Mr Rose, at Inverness, to preach in his absence. The honourable family of Ulbster were in church forenoon and afternoon. They were on their way to Edinburgh; and I heard them spoken of in very high terms of approbation, for their uniform observance of a rule, long before adopted, not to travel on the Sabbath day, when they were on a journey, and to attend divine service: an example worthy of imitation, which many in these days are not disposed to imitate.

I received the paper with hints about potatoes. The people here are not very fond of them. I got a great variety of kinds from the late Mrs Uday Duff; but they are very indifferent about any kind, except what they call kidney potatoes or long white.

I find I should have taken notice that one farmer here commonly brings 150 bolls of shell-lime from Aberdeen each year.—I said that Gormack-burn, after taking an elliptical sweep, falls into Leuchar-burn: it would have been more accurate to have said, after forming some parabolic and serpentine curves, falls into Leuchar-burn.

No. XXII. Page 469.

Parish of Old Deer.

Additional Communications.

*' Old Deer, 16th Jan. 1797.'**' Sir,*

' It was not till some days after the departure of the express, that Mr Anderfon, our minister, put the papers he brought into my hands. As I had the honour of transmitting you an account of this parish, which I was happy to find met with your approbation, I now return you your present queries, with the most exact answers that can be obtained.

' I have taken the liberty of transcribing, on the other page, a copy of a kind of bill of mortality, which I have been endeavouring to make out for this parish. It has not yet been continued for a sufficient number of years to serve as the basis of any calculations; but it is tolerably exact as far as it goes, and will be auxiliary to any others which you may receive of a similar kind. Among other observations that might be made upon it, one appears at once striking and melancholy,—that almost one fifth part of us are carried off, generally in the prime of life, by consumption. How desirable, a remedy for so fatal a disorder!

*' I have the honour to be, Sir,**' Your most humble servant,**' G. CRUDEN.'*

Extract from the Register of Burials of the parish of Old Deer, for the years 1794, 1795, 1796.

Distempers.	No. of persons cut off by each distemper.	Average age of persons cut off by each	Ages of the oldest & youngest persons cut off	No. of persons cut off at different periods of life.
		Years.	Years.	Years. Persons.
Old age, - - -	16	80	72 to 96	Under 3 - 14
Rheumatism, - - -	10	69	39 - 85	From 3 to 10 - 8
Dropfy, - - -	2	62	55 - 70	10 - 20 - 5
Asthma, - - -	6	69	56 - 81	20 - 30 - 15
Fever, - - -	10	50	3 - 82	30 - 40 - 6
Consumption, - - -	20	29	16 - 62	40 - 50 - 3
Sudden death, - - -	5	61	7 ms. - 80	50 - 60 - 8
Iliac passion, - - -	2	65	61 - 70	60 - 70 - 9
Chincough, - - -	9	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 ms. - 7	70 - 80 - 26
Putrid sore throat, - - -	4	5	3 - 7	80 - 90 - 12
Small pox, - - -	4	8	1 - 24	90 - 96 - 1
Dysentery, - - -	3	50	14 - 67	
Cancer, - - -	5	72	60 - 85	107
Gravel and strangury, - - -	2	56	54 - 58	
Burnt by accident, - - -	1	40		
Perished in a storm of snow, - - -	1	37		
Whitewelling, - - -	1	15		
Childbed fever, - - -	1	36		
Spitting of blood, - - -	1	3		
Teething fever, - - -	1	1		
Mortification, - - -	1	75		
Disease in gums, - - -	1	3 weeks		
Premature birth, - - -	1	2 do.		
	107			

N. B. In the above 3 years, upwards of 50 persons more than 107, have died in this parish, of whose age and distemper information could not be obtained. The table therefore regards this parish on a supposition that its population is 2118; or it may be considered as the register of 2 instead of 3 years, which will answer almost exactly.

The old stipend—oatmeal, 5 chalders; money, L. 27:15:6 $\frac{1}{2}$ sterling; for communion elements, L. 5:11:1 $\frac{1}{2}$ sterl. Augmentation—bear, 2 chalders; money, L. 13:17:9 $\frac{1}{2}$ sterling; communion elements, L. 2:15:6 $\frac{1}{2}$. The extent of the glebe, and its annual value, is 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres, worth L. 25 sterling.

The salary of the schoolmaster, is 22 bolls, 3 firlots, oatmeal, paid by the tenants. School fees, L. 11 sterl.; session-clerkship, L. 6 sterling.

ADDI.

 ADDITIONS TO VOLUME XVII.

No. VI. Page 61.

Parish of Prestonpans.

*Appendix to the Statistical Account of Prestonpans,
by W. Wemyss.*

The name of *Preston** originated from the *priests*, who had a cell there before the Reformation. *Oliveftob*, a gentleman's feat hard by, was previously called *Holyftop*; i. e. the place where the *hoft ftopt*, in the way of the proceffion from Preston to Newbottle, an abbey of the ciftertian order.

It is probable the firname of *Preston*, which is of pretty ancient ftanding, was a local one, like many others of this country. Of this name there have been, and ftill are, many respectable and worthy people.

The barony of Preston was extenfive; and it was for many ages the property of a cadet of the illuftrious family of Hamilton. The ancient tower, called Preston Tower, now in ruins, was the meffuage of the family. It was burnt by accident in 1663. Preston Houfe, an elegant pile, was erected fome years thereafter, and is now an hofpital.

In the Chancery Record, B. xvii. F. 70. ftands a 'Retour of Thomas Hamilton, now of Preston, *hæres tallie et provisionis dicti quondam Joannes Hamilton de Preston, nepotis sui patris*,' dated 2d June 1647. Preston Tower was, previous to this, the family refidence.

But the ancient designation and feat of the family was

I i 2

Fingleton

* Preston is properly *Priests' tow*.

Fingleton in Lanarkshire, where they had a large estate. The first charter of it is in the 13th century. Part of that estate was sold, by Sir William Hamilton of Preston, so late as 1704, to Dr. Oswald, son to a provost of Edinburgh, along with the barony of Preston.

It is probable the whole of that barony was church or abbey lands, and fell under grants made, on the Reformation, to the ancestors of the noble family of Ker, as lords of erection. But the old writings of the barony and others perished by the fire which consumed the tower in 1663.

To the Hamiltons of Preston, Sir Thomas Nicolson, king's advocate, the celebrated Bishop Burnet, and Sir Thomas Craig, the great feudal lawyer, were nearly related, as appears from the well-known and valuable works of Craig and Burnet.

Sir Thomas Nicolson left no sons, but several daughters, who married into the best families. The Marquis of Lothian, the Earl of Kinnoul, Scot of Maleny, Carle of Cockpen, Hamilton of Preston and Olivestob, Mr Erskine of Mar, &c. are descended of Sir Thomas Nicolson.

The estate of Prestongrange, part of the barony of Preston, was acquired early in the 17th century by Mr George Morison, whose father had the lands of Troup in Banffshire, and of Pitfour in Aberdeenshire, as his descendants have had the estate of Bogue in Banffshire, which anciently was called Frendraught, and belonged to Chancellor Crichton as far back as James II.'s reign.

One of Prestongrange's daughters, Katherine, was married to Lord Strathnaver, and she was mother of Lady Janet Sinclair;—grandmother of the last Earl of Sutherland, and of Sir John Sinclair; another, Jean, was Viscountess of Arbutnot; and a third, Helen, was Countess of Glasgow, and grandmother of the present Earl of Glasgow.

The estate of Prestongrange was purchased in 1746, at a judicial sale, by Mr William Grant, then his Majesty's Advocate, and afterwards one of the Lords of Session and Justiciary, whose eminent talents and humanity will long be gratefully remembered.

The barony of Preston was sold by Sir William Hamilton to James Oswald of Fingleton about the end of last century; and Lord Grange purchased it at the beginning of the present century. In 1752, it was sold by Lord Grange partly to Watson's Hospital, and to his factor William Ramsay; and in 1770 he sold it to Dr. Ramsay, who had been tutor, first to David Lord Elcho, and afterwards factor to his Grace the Duke of Roxburgh; and Mr Shaw purchased the same soon after, as stated in the volume and page above referred to, of the Statistical Account of this parish.

The estate of Northfield, anciently part of the barony of Preston, was purchased by Mr A. Nisbet, surgeon in Edinburgh, about 1722; and was lately sold to James Sime, slater in Edinburgh, the present worthy proprietor.

The late Lord Drummore purchased his farm in this parish some years after; upon which he built a very good house, and planted and embellished the grounds very elegantly. Upon his Lordship's death, the Rev. Dr. Finlay bought this property, which is an ornament to this part of the country.

The estate of Oliveftob (formerly Holyftop, now called Bankton) was long the property of another respectable branch of the great family of Hamilton. Several of the family of Oliveftob made a figure both at home and abroad: Colonel Thomas Hamilton, when a younger brother, served in the Swedish army. On his return to Scotland, about 1670, he became an eminent merchant, and was afterwards one of the magistrates of Edinburgh: and Lord Kames, in his *Law Tracts*, and Lord Fountainhall, in his *Decisions*, mention him
with

with applause, for bringing the other magistrates *to account for intromission with the Good Town's revenue.*

This gentleman was, by the States of Scotland, in the Convention 1688, appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the Edinburgh Regiment, raised at the Revolution 1688, as appears from the 3d volume of the Scots Acts, page 139, and the records of the town-council of Edinburgh.

He afterwards purchased Olivestob from his eldest brother, William Hamilton, who left no issue. His eldest son, James, went early into the army; and was wounded at the siege of Namur, carried on successfully by King William in person, anno 1695. Mr James Hamilton, after the peace in 1697, studied the civil law, &c. at Leyden; and was admitted advocate in 1703; and was sheriff of Haddington, by commission from Queen Anne, till 1715. He was brother-in-law to Lord Grange. He sold his estate of Olivestob to Col. Gardiner, who was killed very near the manour house by the rebels, 21st Sept. 1745. It was afterwards purchased by Mr Andrew McDoual, advocate, who about ten years after was promoted to the bench, most deservedly, and, out of delicacy to his old friend Mr Hamilton, took the title of Lord Bankton, instead of Olivestob. Mr Hamilton died in an advanced age in 1757. His son, Major Thomas Hamilton of Olivestob, was wrecked, with the late Lord Byron and Captain Cheape, in the course of Lord Anson's celebrated voyage, in 1742. They returned to London together in 1746, after suffering incredible hardships, and had been given up by their relations for lost. The sister of Colonel Thomas Hamilton was mother to the celebrated William Hamilton of Bangour, whose poetic taste and virtues are known everywhere. She was also the last wife and widow of the eminent Sir Hew Dalrymple of North-Berwick, Lord President of the Court of Session.

In

In the Chancery Record, B. xxiv. F. 72. stands, 'Retour of James Hamilton, as heir to umquhill John Hamilton of Bangour, procreate betwixt him and Margaret Hamilton his second spouse, *hares provisionis ejusdem quondam Johannis Hamilton, sui patris.*' They were the grandfather and grandmother of William, the poet. The Lady was daughter to John Hamilton of Olivestob. The service is dated 4th January 1679.

Five of the sons of Major Hamilton, her grandnephew, served with distinction in the British army, betwixt 1776 and 1795. All without issue. His only sister that survived him was the wife of William Wemyss, W.S. The Major died in 1773, and Mrs Wemyss in 1794.

John, the first Hamilton of Olivestob, was lawful son to Hamilton of Borlum in Airshire, a cadet of the Hamilton family in the 14th century, as appears from family papers and Nisbet's Heraldry.

There were frequent marriages between these two families of Preston and Olivestob, and with the Hamiltons of Bangour and Whitelaw; the Hamiltons of Fala; the Hamiltons of Westport; the Hamiltons of Gilkerscleugh; the Scotts of Thirlestoun and Harden; the Johnstons of Westerhall, and Lowis of Merchiston.

A younger brother of the said Mr James Hamilton of Olivestob perished in the unfortunate Darien expedition. Andrew Hamilton, another of his brothers, a brave officer, died in Ireland in 1738; and Otho, his youngest brother, was major of the 40th regiment, and lieutenant-governor of Placentia in Newfoundland. He served with distinction in Queen Anne's wars, and died in 1765. Two of this gentleman's sons, John and Otho Hamilton, served with their father in the 40th regiment. The one, Otho, succeeded his father in the majority. John, the other, was captain of a company,

company, and died in Ireland. Otho afterwards was lieutenant-colonel of the 59th regiment. He is still alive. Goutish habits, brought on by an active and fatiguing service of half a century's continuance, made him retire. His only son, like his father, is a gallant and spirited officer. He is captain in the horse guards; and wrote the history of the campaigns 1793 and 1794, in which he served with general approbation.

A branch of this military family of Oliveftob fettled in the beginning of last century in Sweden; of whom Count Hamilton is the representative, and governor of one of the provinces of Sweden.

Three grandsons of Mr James Hamilton of Oliveftob, viz. Capt. John Wemyfs of the 59th regiment, Capt. William Sinclair Wemyfs of the 48th regiment, and Capt. Francis Wemyfs, late of the Grenada packet, now master of one of his Majesty's fourth-rate ships of war, went early into the service of their country; and another of his grandsons, Otho Herman Wemyfs, was admitted advocate in 1785, 82 years after the admission of his grandfather.

Grizel Urquhart, daughter to Colonel Alexander Urquhart of Newhall, and niece to Mr Hamilton, was Countess of Carnwath. Mary Erskine, niece to his wife, was Countess of Kintore; and Elizabeth Urquhart, the younger sister of Lady Carnwath, was married to his son Major Hamilton.

If there be merit, in this country, in serving honourably at the bar, in the field, and in the navy; the public, at least, will wish it suitably rewarded, when long and well earned by families like these, to which this parish hath an immediate relation.

No. XXVIII. Page 413.

Parish of Mortlach.

Additions and Corrections, by the Rev. George Gordon.

Mission.—There has long been a mission or itinerancy in Glenrinnnes, supported by the committee for managing the royal bounty, which greatly accommodates five or six hundred people; of whom two thirds are reckoned in the parish of Mortlach, and one third in the parish of Aberdour. It has been a very useful appointment; and was, most probably from a strong sense of the propriety of it, one of the earliest of the kind. The people are so much convinced of its benefit, that they are just now rebuilding the meeting-house, and giving it a slate roof, at their own expence. It is between 4 or 5 miles from any church.

Society School.—There was a society school too in the same glen, which was very serviceable; and yet it was taken away lately: But, it is hoped, it will soon be restored; and it should be ambulatory betwixt Glenrinnnes and Glenmarky, a year or two in the one place, and then as long in the other. For education and the interests of religion among the young in this corner, such a school may be said to be almost necessary.

The above two paragraphs should have come in immediately before the account of the poor.

Errata.

413. 4. For 'Murthelack,' read 'Murthelach.'
 do. 9. For 'Morlay,' read 'Morlag.'
 418. 5. Dele 'above.'
 do. 10. For 'deers,' read 'deer.'

420. 15. For 'land,' read 'and.'
 421. 19. For '1766,' read '1776.'
 do. 13. After '47 $\frac{3}{10}$,' add, 'and for the third, 34 $\frac{3}{10}$.'
 427. 9. For 'needlefs,' read 'endlefs.'
 429. — The last ten lines are misplaced.
 431. 3. from the bottom. For 'quadringinta,' read 'quadranginta.'
 432. 11. For 'quaque,' read 'quoque.'
 438. 5. For 'corps,' read 'corpſes.'
 440. 5. For 'woers,' read 'wooters.'

Besides the above, there are some smaller errors in spelling and pointing, and several misplacings of words and whole sentences, which the reader will easily discover and correct himself.

No. XXXIX. Page 543.

Parish of Kilmonivaig.

Additional Information, from the Rev. Mr Ross.

Means of improving the District.—1. Long leases, at reasonable rates; 2. Considerations for making inclosures, ditches, and raising green crops; 3. Attention to the breed of black and white cattle, by the introduction of such bulls and tups as may be found most adapted to the climate; and lastly, Encouragement for establishing an woollen manufactory in the country, at which the idle hands might find employment, and money be circulated among the inhabitants.

The inhabitants may be divided into two classes; the tacksmen, and the lower rank of tenants and cottars. The latter are extremely poor, and must remain so, unless they emigrate, or some such thing as an woollen manufactory be established

at

at Fort William; for which it is admirably adapted, surrounded as it is, by sheep farms in every direction for 40 miles, and from which little less than 20,000 stone of wool is exported annually to be manufactured in different parts of the kingdom.

The tacksmen, in general, cannot be said by any means to be opulent.

As to the etymology of the name Kilmonivaig, it derives its name from the great extent of soft moor, with which the burying place is almost surrounded; in the Gaelic rendered Cilmonebhuig, or 'Cil of the soft moss.'

The rotation of crops consists of oats, barley, and potatoes. The first generally produces 3 returns; the second, 5; and the third, 8. What may be the produce per acre, it is not easy to say with precision, as the lands have not as yet undergone a survey.

The inhabitants of the parish may be computed at 2000; but the minister cannot say what number may be males or what females.

The number of the poor is about 40; and no funds for their support, but the weekly collections at the church door.

ADDITIONS TO VOLUME XVIII.

No. VI. Page 158.
Parish of Carmunnock.

Additions and Corrections, from the Rev. Adam Foreman.

I should not have troubled Sir John Sinclair again so early, had not several circumstances occurred, which, for the sake of accuracy, may be of some little consequence in the publication of the account of this parish.

1. The report or account in 1755, must have been considerably higher, than in the copy which you have of Dr Webster's account. In your letter, it makes the number of souls in this parish to be 471. But from my knowledge of the local situation of the dwellings, &c. confirmed by many whom I have consulted, the numbers must have been considerably greater. 2. From several statements in the parish register, the numbers appear to have then been 540, and in some years upwards. 3. The 471 must either have been the examinable persons in the parish, or else the number of souls in what is called properly the parish, exclusive of the number of souls in the two annexations *quoad sacra*: viz. the barony of Driffs, belonging to Cathcart, *quoad temporalia*; and the lands of Busby, belonging to Kilbryde, which pay the *temporalia* to the college of Glasgow. 4. But having a few days ago got a pretty accurate copy of Dr Webster's account from my friend Dr Porteous, I find the amount of this parish to be, in
the

the year 1755, 526; which comes near to the account in the register, and seems to agree with the conclusions that may be drawn from marriages, baptisms, &c. The increase therefore will amount only to 44 souls. I could have wished for the sake of resolving the question respecting the population in the kingdom, that your copy in this particular had been the more accurate one, but for many reasons, unnecessary at present to mention, we must keep by the 526 as the real statement.

2. Having endeavoured to gain the exact measurement of the parish, our account will be more accurate by stating the extent thus: From east to west, about 4 miles in length; from north to south, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in breadth. It is in many places 3 miles in breadth, but in general is according to the above statement. If however we include the annexations, its extent, from east to west, will be $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, and about 4 miles in breadth from northeast to southwest; this being the direction in which we can attain to accuracy, if we include the annexations.

Sir Harry Moncrieff will easily rectify the statement formerly given in, by attending to the above circumstance.

3. But the principal circumstance why I have considered it proper to write Sir John Sinclair at this time, is a *fact* respecting the account of Mr Ewing M'Lae's improvements. In my account, Sir John Sinclair will observe, (as far as I recollect,) that I mention that Mr Ewing M'Lae will gain his purpose, viz. 'of letting his lands at 30s. and 40s. per acre.' I know that you, Sir, are always much pleased with solid improvement in every branch of agriculture; and as I wish, if possible, to inspire the people here to imitate Mr Ewing's laudable exertions, I considered it proper to state the following circumstance, which has taken place since I gave in my account. Mr Ewing has let a farm, for 19 years, to the former

mer tenant, consisting of about 114 acres, at 30s. for each acre. Observe, this is not the ground which Mr Ewing has been highly improving with Glasgow manure from the shambles; but the very lands which the same tenant formerly possessed at about 12s. the acre, less than half the present value. Mr Ewing is to inclose with double hedges, which circumstance Sir John Sinclair will understand, as this mode is followed in many parts of the country where improvements have taken place.

He also intends, in conspicuous situations, and which in a high country must have a very fine effect from the adjacent grounds which lie low, to insert clumps of firs, &c; and he means, besides what he has already done, to inclose the whole of his lower grounds, and the grounds exposed to the storm, with broad belts of planting, &c.

I have mentioned the above circumstances that Sir John Sinclair may make any use of them in the publication of the account, which he shall think necessary.

I forgot, in the beginning of my letter, to mention a small oversight. The origin of the name of this parish, Carmunnock, or Carmannock, signifies ‘the camp town founded upon the hill of heath.’

Though Sir John Sinclair is now pleased to order the publication of this parish, I shall consider it however my duty, on all occasions, to give him the state of improvement, if any such shall take place; and if I shall think my observations worthy of his notice. I know Sir John Sinclair will kindly receive this small tribute of real respect.

No. XII. Page 317.

Parish of Kippen.

Additional Information, by the Rev. J. Campbell.

The following anecdotes are not only curious in themselves, but throw light on the state of society of Scotland at the time to which they refer. They are transcribed from the Essay on the Family and Surname of Buchanan, by William Buchanan of Auckmar, p. 57—60.

In the reign of King James IV. and for divers ages before, the Meinziesses were proprietors of a great part of the parish of Kippen, and some of the parish of Killearn, though scarce any memory of that name remains in either of these parishes in this age. A gentleman of that name being laird of Arnpryor, at the above mentioned juncture, who had no children of his own, nor any of his name in these parts that could pretend any relation to him, was for some time at variance with one Forrester of Garden, a very topping gentleman of Arnpryor's neighbourhood, who, upon account of his neighbour Arnpryor's circumstances, sent a menacing kind of message to him, either to dispoise his estate in his favour voluntarily, otherwise he would dispossess him of it by force. Arnpryor not being of power to oppose Garden, and being loath to give his estate by compulsion to his enemy, judged it the more proper, as well as honourable method, to dispoise his estate to some other gentleman who would counter-balance Garden, and would maintain the rightful owner in possession thereof during his life. In this exigency he had recourse to the laird of Buchanan, offering to dispoise his estate to one of Buchanan's sons, if he would defend him from
any

any violence offered by Garden. Buchanan readily accepted of the offer; and so far undervalued Garden, that he sent his second son, then only a child, without any other guard than his dry nurse, to oversee him, along with Arnpryor, to be kept by him as his heir. Upon notice hereof, Garden came to Arnpryor's house with a resolution to kill him, or oblige him to send back Buchanan's son, and grant his former demands. Arnpryor having gone out of the way, Garden very imperiously ordered the woman, who attended Buchanan's child, to carry him back forthwith whence he came, otherwise he would burn Arnpryor's house and them together. The woman replied, that she would not desert the house for any thing he durst do; telling him withal, if he offered the least violence, it would be revenged to his cost. This stout reply was somewhat damping to Garden, who at the same time reflecting, that he would not only be obnoxious to the laws for any violent measures he should take, but also to enmity with Buchanan, which he was by no means able to support, therefore followed the safest course, by desisting for the future either to molest Arnpryor, or frustrate his destination; so that his adopted heir enjoyed his estate, without the least impediment, after his death.—'This John Buchanan of Auckmar and Arnpryor was afterward termed King of Kippen, upon the following account. King James V. a very sociable debonair prince, residing at Stirling, in Buchanan of Arnpryor's time; carriers were very frequently passing along the common road, being near Arnpryor's house, with necessaries for the use of the King's family; and he having some extraordinary occasion, ordered one of these carriers to leave his load at his house, and he would pay him for it; which the carrier refused to do, telling him he was the King's carrier, and his load for his Majesty's use; to which Arnpryor seemed to have small regard, compelling the carrier in the end to
leave

leave his load, telling him, if King James was King of Scotland, he was King of Kippen, so that it was reasonable he should share with his neighbour King, in some of these loads so frequently carried that road. The carrier represented this usage, and telling the story, as Arnpryor spoke it, to some of the King's servants, it came at length to his Majesty's ears, who soon afterwards, with a few attendants, came to visit his neighbour King, who happened to be at dinner. King James having sent a servant to demand access, was denied the same by a tall fellow, with a battle-ax, who stood porter at the gate, telling there could be no access till dinner was over. This answer not satisfying the King, he sent to demand access a second time; upon which he was desired by porter to desist, otherwise he would find cause to repent his rudeness. His Majesty finding this method would not do, desired the porter to tell his master, that the *goodman of Ballageich** desired to speak with the King of Kippen. The porter telling Arnpryor so much, he in all humble manner came and received the King, and having entertained him with much sumptuousness and jollity, became so agreeable to King James, that he allowed him to take as much of any provision he found carrying that road, as he had occasion for; and seeing he made the first visit, desired Arnpryor in a few days to return him a second at Stirling, which he performed, and continued in very much favour with the King, always thereafter being termed King of Kippen while he lived.

* Ballageich is the name of the rock on which the Castle of Stirling stands.

ADDITIONS TO VOLUME XIX.

No. IV. Page 140.

Parish of Old Aberdeen, or Old Machar.

Additional Communications.

Valued rent, L. 5747 : 7 Scotch. Real rent, L. 10500 sterl. Stipend of the minister of the first charge, 96 bolls bear, 16 bolls meal, L. 61 in money, L. 10 for communion elements; a glebe of $6\frac{1}{2}$ acres, worth L. 22; and a manse and garden, worth L. 20 per annum. Stipend of the minister of the second charge—32 bolls bear, 32 bolls meal, and L. 27 : 15 : 8 in money; no manse, garden, or glebe, and no allowance for communion elements.

Parochial or grammar school, 16 scholars; salary of schoolmaster, L. 11 : 2 : 2; fees from scholars, L. 16. English school, 12 scholars; salary of schoolmaster, L. 6 : 1 : 8; school fees, fees for registration of baptisms and burials, &c. and as session-clerk, L. 32 : 18 : 10. There are besides, a number of schools in the parish, the scholars may be computed at about 200.

Enrolled poor, 210; occasional poor, 30; capital of their funds, L. 105; collections at the church, L. 67 : 12; paid yearly by the chapel of ease at Gilcomston to the poor's funds, L. 35 : total annual income of the poor, L. 165 : 17, including L. 8; the rent of a feu, and L. 50 per annum, arising from

from property in money, houses, &c. left by a Mr Harrow, under the management of trustees, and distributed, once a year, among such poor, as have resided four years in the parish, and are not travelling beggars.

No. XVIII. Page 394.

Parish of Orphir.

Additions and Corrections, by the Rev. Francis Liddell.

As I perceive, by your late intimation in the public papers, that the last volume of the Statistical Account is not yet published, I beg leave to recommend to your notice, the following alterations, which I wish to be made in the history of my parish.

1. 'That the Hudson's Bay Company have been pleased to augment the wages to L. 8, by which above L. 500 per annum is added to the income of Orkney.' I formerly mentioned L. 10; but am now given to understand, that two pounds of the ten are given upon condition of their serving inland; which conditional emolument their servants received, before the date of my application; with this difference, that now none are engaged but upon the express condition of serving inland, whereas formerly it was a matter of choice.

2. That in the article of commerce, the following words be substituted:—'The principal article of commerce is kelp, which at present sells as high as L. 10 per ton. The only other articles worth mentioning, are malt, black cattle, grease, butter, and linen yarn, for which so poor a price is given by the dealers in that commodity, that the most expert spinner can hardly earn 3d. a day.' 'No county in North Britain is better situated for trade than this, and yet
L 1 2
'nowhere;

‘ nowhere has it been more neglected. This is chiefly owing to a low spirit for smuggling, which has been the bane of Orkney for half a century past; but which, owing to the patriotic exertions of some of the first gentlemen of the country, is now happily suppressed.’

3. In the article of advantages and disadvantages of the parish: ‘ The advantages of this parish are fire, water, and fine women. Notwithstanding which, most of the heritors reside at a distance, and leave their tenants to the management of factors and under agents, who, if humanity should incline them, have it not in their power effectually to relieve their distresses.’ But it is to be hoped, that Mr Honyman of Græmsay, now one of the Lords of Session, and whose mind is enlightened by southern ideas, will redress every grievance, will abolish personal services, will grant long leases to his tenants, and encourage them to improve their farms; whereby he will render his people happy, his family respected, and gain to himself immortal honour; whilst his conduct, at the same time, will be an example to others, which they must be proud to imitate.

4. The church of Orphir was built in the year 1705, (not in the year 1707, as formerly mentioned.)

No. XXXI. Page 616.

Parish of Auldearn.

Additional Communications, by the Rev. John Paterson.

The ground adjacent to the village of Auldearn, on the west, is distinguished as the scene of a signal victory, obtained by the forces of Charles I. commanded by the renowned James Marquis of Montrose, over the Covenanters, in the time of those civil commotions by which this kingdom

was

was agitated last century, and which terminated so fatally to its unfortunate and misguided monarch. In the early part of his life, with that ardour which seems to have formed the prominent feature of his character, Montrose had embraced the cause of the Covenanters; and was now won, by the caresses of his sovereign, to lend his strenuous support to the interests of monarchy *. Alarmed by his rapid career of victory, the two leaders of the Covenanters, Baillie and Urrie, thought it expedient to divide their forces against him. Having defeated the Campbells at Inverlochrie, and being joined by Lord Gordon, who had escaped from his uncle Argyle in Mar, with 1000 foot and 200 horse, Montrose marched directly to the Spey, in search of the republican army, if possible to compel them to an engagement. He had now approached within six miles, before Urrie imagined that he had passed the Grampians: with such astonishing rapidity he had advanced, as to anticipate all accounts of his movements. Urrie, finding him so near, crossed the Spey without delay, that he might not be obliged to fight before he acquired a reinforcement of auxiliaries, of which he entertained expectations; and having appointed Inverness the place of convention for all his forces, proceeded thither through Elgin and Forres with all expedition: Montrose still advancing in his rear, and pursuing him so closely, that with difficulty, under protection of the night, he reached Inverness.

Montrose then encamped at Auldearn. Urrie found at Inverness, as he expected, the Earls of Seaforth and Sutherland,

* For the detailed history of this engagement, we are indebted to the Memoirs of Montrose, by Dr. George Wishart, his Lordship's chaplain, who enjoyed his confidence, and attended him in all his expeditions, till he was taken by the Covenanters. He was afterwards Bishop of Edinburgh.

land, the clan of the Frasers, and several from the shires of Moray and Caithness, all convened in arms to the appointed rendezvous. Having added some veterans in the garrison of Inverness, he marched directly against Montrose, with an army now consisting of 3500 foot and 400 horse. Montrose's army was far inferior, and consisted only of 1500 foot and 250 horse: he was therefore more inclined to retire, than engage with such inequality of force. But Urrie pressed after him so hard, that to retreat with safety was impracticable; and Baillie, with an army yet more powerful, and more formidable for cavalry, had now far advanced on this side the Grampian Hills. Montrose was therefore reduced to the alternative, to give Urrie battle on unequal terms, or expose himself to the more hazardous situation of being hemmed in betwixt two armies. He resolved therefore, without delay, to try the fate of war; and began to chuse the most advantageous ground, there to await the enemy. The village then stood upon high ground covering the neighbouring valley. Here he drew up his forces, entirely out of the view of the enemy; placing a few chosen foot before the village, where they were covered by some newly-formed dykes. On his right he set Alexander M'Donald, stationing him in a spot fortified with dykes and ditches*, and interspersed with bushes and stones; commanding him on no account to quit the advantage of his ground, fortified alike against the impression of the foot and cavalry of the enemy. To them also, with a penetration which reflects the highest honour on his abilities as a commander, he entrusted the royal standard, which was wont to be carried before himself; judging, that, upon sight of it, the opposite army would direct their forces against that wing, where, by reason of the
disadvantageous

* A place called Newmills still corresponds exactly to this description.

disadvantageous ground, they would be of no avail. All the rest of his men he conveyed to the opposite wing; putting the horse under the command of Lord Gordon, and himself conducting the infantry. He had thus no main army, but the shew of one under covert of the dykes.

The army of the Covenanters, as Montrose had happily conjectured, no sooner saw the royal standard displayed, than they dispatched their choicest cavalry, with their veteran troops. Montrose, unable to adopt this course, from the limited number of his troops, resolved to make an assault at once with all his men on the left wing. No sooner had he projected this, than some person, on whose fidelity he could confide, came and whispered in his ear that M'Donald with his forces, on the right, were discomfited and put to flight. Not alarmed with the tidings of this disaster, to prevent the dejection of his soldiers, he, with admirable self-command, exclaimed to Lord Gordon, 'My Lord, M'Donald has already routed the enemy on the right: shall we merely look on, and let him win all the honour of the day?' Instantly he led on to the charge. Urrie's horse could not withstand the shock of Gordon's, but immediately wheeled about, leaving the flanks of their army bare and defenceless. The foot, though deserted by the horse, while at any distance, maintained the combat with the most obstinate valour, by the superiority of their number, and the excellence of their armour; but coming at length to close combat*, they threw down their arms, and betook themselves to flight.

The

* We are informed by Spalding, commissary-clerk of Aberdeen, (whose manuscript history has been lately published,) that this defeat was attributed by the vanquished, to one Crouner or Major Drummond, who unskilfully wheeled about upon their own foot, and thereby broke their ranks, and so occasioned many of them to be killed; for which he was afterwards condemned by a council of war, and shot.

The success with which this stratagem was deservedly crowned, could not render Montrose forgetful of the perilous condition of the right wing, and he hastened thither to its relief with all the men he could collect. M'Donald, (a man of the greatest personal intrepidity, but endowed rather with the qualifications of a mere soldier than of a general, bold even to rashness,) moved with indignant scorn at the insults of the enemy, and disdainful to screen himself behind the dykes and bushes, withdrew from the strong ground, where he was secure from all danger, to face the enemy on the open field. He had nigh fallen a sacrifice to his rashness. The Covenanters, superior to him both by their horse and number, and many of them experienced soldiers, soon threw his troops into disorder, and repulsed them in great confusion; and had he not quickly retired with them into a neighbouring inclosure, they had all been cut to pieces, and the royal standard fallen into the power of the enemy. This rash mistake, M'Donald abundantly redeemed, by the singular courage he displayed in bringing off his men. He himself was the last man who quitted the field, and alone covered the retreat of his men; defending his body with a large target, and opposing himself to the thickest of the enemy: some soldiers came so near him, as to fix their spears in his target, which he is said successively to have cut to pieces by a single stroke of his sword.

When the detachment with whom M'Donald was engaged, in the inclosure, saw Montrose coming to his assistance, and perceived that their own men on the left were fled, the horse ran with precipitation; but the foot, principally fresh soldiers, fought with the utmost desperation, and fell almost every man in his rank. The conquerors continued the chase for some miles.

There were slain of the Covenanters about 3000 foot,
among

among whom the veteran soldiers fought with uncommon bravery; but almost all the horse escaped, by a well-timed, but inglorious flight. Of the Covenanters, the most eminent persons slain, were, Campbell of Lawers and Sir John and Sir Gideon Murrays. Montrose lost, on the left wing, only one private soldier, and on the other, where M'Donald commanded, 14 soldiers; but there were many more wounded. Mr Shaw, (*History of Moray*), mentions M'Pherson of Invereschie among the slain on the side of the Royalists. This battle of Auldearn was fought May 4th, 1645.—Spalding's remarks on this engagement are characteristic of his age. 'It was 'miraculous, and only foughten with God's own finger, as 'would appear; so many to be cut down on the one side, 'and so few on the other: yet no thanks was given to God 'for this great victory.'

After this victory, Montrose gave directions to burn the lands and houses of Campbell of Calder in Nairn, and plunder all his goods. The Earl of Moray being in England, his ground was plundered, also that of Kinsterie and Lethen, and several other lands in the county.

ADDITIONS TO VOLUME XX.

No. XIV. Page 277.

Parish of Tingwall.

Statistical Account of the united Parishes of Tingwall, Whiteness, and Weisdale, 1797; by the Rev. James Sands, minister.

Situation.—These united parishes are situated about the centre of the Mainland, or principal island of Shetland. The names, like all others in this country, are evidently of Norwegian origin, though no satisfactory account can be given of their etymology. *Taing*, in the language of that country, signifies ‘a point of land stretching out into the water;’ and Tingwall or Taingwall, is said to derive its name from a small island, in a water called the Loch of Tingwall, and joined to the nearest shore by the remains of a stone wall. In this island, the courts of law are said to have been antiently held, and to this day it is called the Law-Taing. About two miles west from Tingwall, and separated from it by a ridge of mountains, extending from north to south about 6 miles, lies Whiteness; and about two miles N. W. from Whiteness, lies Weisdale. The inhabitants of Weisdale had formerly their own parish kirk; but in the year 1722 the kirk of Weisdale was suppressed, the situation of the kirk of Whiteness altered, and a kirk built at Suretown in Whiteness, to be in all time coming the kirk of Whiteness and Weisdale.

Boundaries.

Boundaries.—Tingwall, Whitenefs, and Weifdale, are bounded, on the west, by the united parishes of Sandsting and Easting; on the north, by the parishes of Delting and Nesting; on the northeast, by an inlet of the German Ocean; on the east, by the town of Lerwick, disjoined from Tingwall in the year 1701, and erected into a separate parish; on the southeast, by Sound and Gulberwick, disjoined from Tingwall in 1722, and annexed to the parish of Lerwick; on the south, by Quarf, a part of the parish of Burray; and on the southwest, by an inlet of the Atlantic Ocean.

Extent.—These united parishes extend from N. to S. about 10 miles, and about 7 from E. to W.; but, like the rest of the Mainland of Shetland, they are so strangely intersected by arms and inlets of the sea, that in no part of them can a foot be set down two miles from salt water. These inlets of the sea are the voes or bays of Wadbister, Laxforth and Deal, on the N. and N. E.; and those of Scalloway, Whitenefs, Binnanefs and Weifdale, on the W. and S. W.; all of them forming safe and commodious harbours, especially that of Scalloway.

The only village in these parishes is Scalloway. It was formerly considered as the chief town of the Shetland Islands. Some families of distinction lived in it. It was the residence of the sheriff-depute, the seat of justice, and consequently the resort of strangers from the different parts of the country. Of late it has fallen much into decay. At present there are but 31 inhabited houses in it; and the only gentleman of property, now residing in it, is Mr Scott of Scalloway, who is almost its sole proprietor. To the westward of Scalloway there are four inhabited islands, and several small grazing holms, making a part of these parishes.

Air and Climate.—The air cannot be considered as unhealthy.

healthy. Here epidemical diseases are not known. The people generally enjoy good health, and afford many instances of longevity. Formerly, the ravages made by the small-pox have been dreadful; but for these last 20 years inoculation has been practised among all ranks. Mr Mitchell, the late incumbent, inoculated, with his own hand, several hundreds of his parishioners, and that with great success.

Lakes.—There are several lakes or lochs in these parishes, and all of them abounding with excellent trout. The most considerable are, the lochs of Tingwall and Asla, in the parish of Tingwall, and the loch of Strome, in Whiteness. In the loch of Strome, about a mile from its communication with the sea, and where the water is perfectly fresh, very fat codfish are caught, whose skin is as black as that of an eel.

Soil and Produce.—The arable land in these parishes is generally a rich brown earth, on a dry limestone bottom; producing in good seasons more bear and grey oats than the inhabitants can consume. From them, the towns of Lerwick and Scalloway receive considerable supplies of meal, and almost all the malt they use. They also sell very great quantities of potatoes to the inhabitants of Lerwick, and the strangers who occasionally put into the harbour of Lerwick. This valuable article, they preserve from the winter frosts, in pits dug in their barn yards about 3 feet deep. After the potatoes are put into these pits, they are first covered with earth, and then with a stack of corn. For these two last years, black and red oats have been tried, and promise to do well.

The usual rotation of crops from ley is, the first year, bear, the second oats, the third potatoes, the fourth bear sown on the ground without ploughing; and from fields in this state, they raise their cleanest and their richest crops. It is thus
their

their infield is generally managed: and it is a pity the distinction were not abolished, for the soil of their outfield is naturally the same with that of their infield; and after it is ameliorated by two or three potatoe crops, the difference is no longer known.

The outfield ground is commonly laboured for oats two years, and then laid ley one year. No manure is bestowed on it. This may be considered as shameful in parishes where there is not a stone but what is lime, and where there is a sufficient quantity of fuel to burn it; but while lime is sold from 10d. to 1s. the barrel, it is not to be supposed that much of it will be used to the purpose of enriching the soil. The manure made for their infield ground is rich and strong.

Instead of carrying the dung daily from the byres, it is allowed to remain there as long as there is room for it, and is every day mixed and covered with black mould brought from the hills. After the byres are full, and the cattle raised to the very roof, the whole mixture is carried to the dunghill; and then the operation within begins and goes on daily as before.

There are 78 ploughs in these parishes, each drawn by 4 oxen going abreast, with heavy wooden yokes across their necks. The Shetland plough is single stilted; and is said to be the same used in the cultivated parts of Norway. The implements of husbandry are generally bad. The harrows are light, and mostly timber toothed. For this reason, the plough is always followed by 3 or 4 people, with spades in their hands, doing what might be done to more purpose, and at less expence, by the single draught of a sufficient harrow. The corn hooks are so very small, that the shearer who cuts 2 thraves of the thickest corn in a day, is hard wrought. The manure is carried from the dunghill on horses, and every horse must have his leader; though no place is better calculated

lated for the use of carts than the parish of Tingwall: the ground being so smooth, and at the same time so very dry, that at all seasons a cart may be drawn to every arable spot in it, unless when it is covered with snow. *

The dryness of the soil, enables the farmers to begin and end their seed-time sooner than in other parishes. Their oats are generally sown in February and March, and their bear in April. Their harvest often begins in August, and is ended with September.

Their meadow and pasture grounds are very extensive. The tenants in these parishes are supposed to have at present about 1000 milch cows, and as many oxen and young cattle. In the hills they have from 9000 to 10,000 sheep, and from 600 to 700 horses and mares.

Rents, and State of Property.—In these parishes there are 1618 merks 4 ures of land. An ure is the eighth part of a merk. The dimensions of the merk varies not only in the different parishes of Shetland, but in different towns of the same parish; and though in some of the towns, in these united parishes, it will not measure above half a Scots acre, yet so much does it exceed the Scots acre in others, that the whole of the arable land cannot be less than 1600 acres.—The rents are paid in so many different articles, that it is not easy to ascertain their amount. Some of the heritors have of late converted these articles into a money payment; and, where this is the case, the tenants pay from 10s. to 12s. the merk, exclusive of the minister's stipend and other public burdens.—So fluctuating has been the state of property in these parishes, that, though they belong to 34 different heritors, there are not above 200 merks of land in the possession of the same families they belonged to 36 years ago. On this account, it may not be improper

* They should import the old front wheels of carriages from London and Edinburgh.

improper here to insert the names of the landholders, with the number of merks each possesses.

RESIDING HERITORS.	Merks. Ures.
John Scott of Scalloway -	197
Robert Ross of Sound - -	133
Mrs Leslie of Uftanefs - -	72
Walter Scott of Scottshall -	53
Gilbert Goodland of Fitch -	26 : 4
Hugh Jamison of Scater - -	12
James Anderson of Stippigrind -	11 : 2
Gilbert Paterfon of Greenwall -	6
Janet Tait, in Deal - - -	3
Malcom Halcrow, in Fitch -	3
John Irvine, in Howl - - -	3
Peter Mowat, in Hammersland -	2
Thomas Smith, in Haggersta -	2
Thomas Williamson, in do. -	2
	<hr/>
	525 : 6

NON-RESIDING HERITORS.	Merks. Ures.
Lord Dundas - -	288
Peter Innes of Frakafeld -	193 : 4
Andrew Bolt of Berry - -	131 : 4
William Craigie of Brow -	128
Arthur Nicolson of Lochend -	90 : 4
Francis Hiddel, writer in Lerwick -	56
Thomas Bolt of Crowster -	44
James Cheyne of Tanwick -	33
James Linklatter, merchant in Lerwick	19
Gideon Gifford of Busta - -	16
Thomas Henry of Bayhall -	14
John Bruce of Skurron -	10 : 4

Capt.

Capt. James Malcomson	-	-	13 : 2
William Bruce of Simbester	-	-	9
Magnus Fea, merchant in Lerwick			11
George Sutherland, merchant in Lerwick			15
Gilbert Henderson of Bardister	-		6
Henry Blair of Sound, in Yell	-		1 : 4
James Ross, merchant in Lerwick	-		9
John Mowat of Annsbræ	-	"	4
			<hr/>
			1092 : 6

Population.—The number of inhabitants in these parishes, those of the village of Scalloway included, amounts to 1794. The average of births, for these last five years has been 45, and that of marriages 14, annually. The average of deaths cannot be ascertained with precision, as it has not been customary to register them.

Fisheries, &c.—Many of the inhabitants are employed in the ling fishing; though few of them can be said to follow this employment with advantage to themselves. Their local situation seems to forbid their prosecuting this business. They carry it on from stations 10, 20, and 30 miles distant from their own houses. Thus they are from home during the summer months; and all they can earn by it, is but a poor compensation for what their farms, their flocks, and their families must suffer by their absence.

The women, when not busied about farm work, are employed in knitting coarse stockings. This has of late become an object worthy their attention. Formerly the stockings of Shetland were sent to Holland and Hamburgh; but the difference of their value since they found their way to other markets, particularly the English, is said to be nearly equal to the land

rent

rent of the country: and this difference must be ascribed to the patriotic and benevolent exertions of Sir John Sinclair.

There are two very necessary bridges in these parishes; one over a water that runs into Laxforth Voe, and the other where the Loch of Strome communicates with the Voe of Binnanefs. These bridges are at present in very bad order. To open a more easy communication with the town of Lerwick, Mr Ross of Sound, aided and supported by Mr Scott of Scottshall, the sheriff-substitute, has done a great deal to make a good and commodious road. This, over mountains and vallies of the deepest moss, was at first thought impracticable, and every obstruction was thrown in his way; but, in spite of difficulties and discouragement, he persevered, until he had formed a road about 16 feet in breadth, and extending from the parish of Tingwall to Lerwick. He is now covering it with clay and gravel; and so much of it as is thus covered, looks well, and promises duration.

The remains of antiquity in these parishes are hardly worth notice. At Scalloway there is an old ruinous castle, built in 1600 by Patrick Stewart, Earl of Orkney; and in some other places, the ruins of Pictish castles, and Popish chapels, are to be met with.

The minister's glebe is on a rising ground, at the north end of the loch of Tingwall, three miles north from Scalloway, and two south from Laxforth Voe, and in sight from both. The manse and kirk stand on the highest part of this rising ground. The kirk was built in 1788, and the manse in 1795; and both are in good order. The soil of the glebe is excellent; and its being so remote from the sea, renders it the most proper spot in this country for experiments in agriculture: but the want of inclosures, in a country where there are no herds, and where the herding act has hardly been heard of, must operate powerfully against all agricul-

tural improvements. The stipend is paid by the heritors; and consists of 511. sterling in cash, communion elements included, and 108 lisponds of butter. The lispond is 30 pounds Amsterdam weight.

The parochial school is vacant; and indeed no decent man will take charge of it, until the present salary, which is only 100 merks Scotch, is augmented. There is, and has been for several years, a school in Weisdale, supported by the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge. This school is taught by Mr George Clunes, whose usefulness, and attention to the duties of his office, entitle him to particular notice.

The number of poor in these parishes is about 40. The Sabbath Day's collections are divided among them quarterly; but their principal support is from the private charity of their neighbours: and it may not be improper, to conclude this statistical account, with observing, that the inhabitants of these parishes, are in general humane, industrious, decent in their manners, and regular in their attendance on the ordinances of our holy religion.

Additional Information respecting the Parish of Tingwall.

Next to Dunrossness, this is the most pleasant district in Zetland. In the south part of it, stands the village of Scalloway, once the only one in Zetland. It has never been very large; though built on the shore of a fine harbour, and upon a much better soil than Lerwick. It is now rather on the decline.

On the south-east end of the village, stands the old castle of Scalloway, built by Patrick Stewart, Earl of Orkney. It is said, that his obliging the inhabitants to work three days, on their own charges, in assisting at the building, gave rise to much murmuring, and produced many complaints of oppression.

pression. The fabric is long ago in ruins; but the wall is straight and entire as on the day that it was finished, except where they have torn the freestone out of it. The lime of this building is firm and hard, as a rock; and affords an additional proof, that the manner of preparing lime, so as to give good cement for building, was not lost in the wreck of antient Rome, as has erroneously been alledged. This house has been designed for defence against any sudden attack; having on each corner the old-fashioned round turrets, with many little port holes: but it could not have stood out against artillery.

In the middle of this village lives Mr Scott of Scalloway, in a neat little modern house. This gentleman has done a good deal to hinder the village from falling into decay. At the west end of the village is the house and garden of West-shore. The house is a mean old building. The garden, when properly taken care of, is by much the best in Zetland. Here are several shrubs, bushes, and even trees, which are scarcely to be seen any where else in these islands; several ellons, (elms, I suppose,) plane tree, willows, grown to a good thickness, but very low. Some years ago, I saw here the bay, the laurel bay, mezereon, horse chestnut, box, ash, and a good thorn hedge, and broom, which here is a fine flourishing shrub; also gooseberries, currants, honeysuckle. Many of these are now lost, since the garden has been neglected.

From Scalloway, north-east, is a fine pleasant valley, with a good many small inland farms; but a part of this valley is occupied by two lakes. On the north end of the largest, and at some distance from Scalloway, is the kirk and manse of Tingwall. This kirk had once a steeple at the west end of it; but of late it has been taken down, lest its fall should bring down the roof of the kirk. In the lake is a small

island, to which they enter by stepping-stones from the mainland. Here tradition says that the courts of justice were kept; and from this the island was called the Lawtaing. One custom they had is worth mentioning: That if any person was condemned to suffer punishment for any crime, the sentence was intimated to him by the court; and as only the members of the court and the parties were admitted into the Lawtaing, those remotely concerned, and the idle spectators, stood on the banks of the lake. It was allowed to the condemned criminal to endeavour to make his escape to the kirk of Tingwall; his way led through the crowd of spectators; and if he effected his escape, either by their favouring his cause, or by superior swiftness or strength, and reached the kirk, he was on that account freed from the punishment. This was a kind of appeal to the people from the sentence of the judge.

This valley extends two miles N.E. from Tingwall, where it is terminated by the Voe of Laxforth; a very safe harbour; but as there is no trade here, it is never frequented.

Through all this valley there is great plenty of good limestone, of a bluish colour, yielding a fine white lime. Some very imperfect attempts have been made to manure the ground with it; but as the ground never is ley above one year, and is never fallowed, it cannot be expected that lime will do it much service.

PROSPECTUS OF A LOCHOW CANAL;

OR,

A View of the Propriety of joining Lochow to the Crinan Canal, and thereby giving the Inhabitants of Lochow and Glenurchy the Advantages attending upon Naval Commerce.

By ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, Minister of Kilcalmonell.

Drawn up in Spring 1793.

‘S’ FADDÁ an eigh o Lochow. S’ fadda cabhair o Cruachan.’ *It is a long cry to Lochow, and help is far from Cruachan.*

The above is an adage well known over Scotland, even to those who are unacquainted with the Gaelic language. It is expressive, of the remote and inaccessible situation of the country to which it applies. It was viewed in that light by the hardy heroes of Caledonia, at a time, when war and hunting were their sole trade and employment, when their wants were few, and their desires moderate. Much more strikingly must it appear so to us; when the progress of knowledge and civilization has increased our desires for the conveniences, the comforts, and the embellishments of life, at the same time that it has in the same proportion increased the means of gratifying them. But though Lochowfide, from its inland situation, has little intercourse with other places, the country itself is far from being dreary or unproductive. The beauty of the lake, and its numerous islands and castles, with the fertile
plains

plains and extensive woods along its coasts, contrasted with the splendid grandeur of its surrounding mountains, have attracted the attention of all travellers of taste, and of none more than the elegant describer of the sublime and beautiful. Nor are the inhabitants of this country deficient in genius or industry. Surmounting the difficulties of situation, more of them, than perhaps of any district of equal population in Scotland, have brought themselves forward into notice and consequence; and appear, with credit to themselves and with advantage to others, in the learned professions, as well as in the commercial, the military, and the naval departments. To a people to whom nature has been so kind, it is a pity that art should not lend its assistance. They have long envied those, who, by means of navigable canals, came to the enjoyment of advantages which were formerly denied them. The distance however of Lochow from the sea, and the expence attending a junction of them, prevented the inhabitants of this country almost from communicating their wishes on this subject to each other, much more from laying a plan of a Lochow Canal before the public. But, now that a subscription has been completed for a canal from Crinan to Lochgilphead, which brings the communication with the sea nearer to Lochow; what might formerly be looked upon as a visionary plan, becomes now, not only practicable, but an object highly expedient.

It appears, from the returned estimates of an engineer employed by the landed proprietors of the country, that a passage may be made, from the Crinan Canal to Lochow, to admit flat-built vessels from 50 to 60 tons burthen,

By one tract, 6 feet deep, for 11,255l. 15s. 6½d.

By another, 6 feet deep, for 11,642l. 7s. 10½d.

By another, 6 feet deep, for 19,203l. 6s. 8½d.

By another, 4 feet deep, for 10,568l. 3s.

It has been objected to canals, that they hurt the coasting trade, which is so useful a nursery for manning our ships of war. By the same mode of reasoning, our West India fleet should be obliged to visit the Cape of Good Hope, in the course of their voyage, for the purpose of making more expert sailors: As if the arts of peace were not equally entitled to attention with those of war; as if to enjoy life were not a national object, no less than merely to preserve it. To such objections, one answer seems to be sufficient; that if canals have a tendency to add to the resources of a country, its industry, its wealth, and its population, they, in the same proportion, add to its means of defence against foreign enemies. These objections, however, do not apply to the Lochow Canal. It were easy to shew, that it would not only add to the coasting trade, but that it would likewise become a valuable nursery for seamen. The most circuitous navigation cannot, without a canal, introduce a single vessel to Lochow. The proposed canal, therefore, would not in the smallest degree interfere with the coasting trade. Instead of that, the goods, which are now procured by an expensive land carriage, would, in that event, be coasted a considerable distance before they found their way to the canal. The hardy Highlanders of Glenurchy and Lochow, who first came from curiosity to gaze at the mast and the sail, would soon be prevailed upon to accept of employment on board. Their ambition would not rest here. When they got acquainted with the tars of the Clyde and the Thames, many of them would join them, in order to wipe off the ignominy of being considered as fresh water sailors; and by resigning their old births to a new set, who would soon tread in the steps of their brethren, the Lochow Canal would afford a constant and increasing supply of men to the British navy.

That this canal would afford a reasonable interest for the
money

money laid out upon it, is evident, from its giving an inland navigation of more than 40 miles, being the distance from the Crinan Canal to the N. E. end of Lochow: And this mostly upon one of the largest fresh water lakes in Scotland; where shoals of salmon, trout, char and eel,—where hanging precipices of limestone,—and waving forests, nodding o'er the deep,—with the wool of the bleating flocks, spread over a thousand hills,—powerfully invite the genius of commerce to these long-neglected regions. From the difficulty of exportation the finest and largest salmon have been frequently sold to the inhabitants at 6d. each. The Lochow trout are unrivalled perhaps in any part of the known world. They are of the finest quality, and are found from the smallest size to 30lb. weight. As a specimen of the value of the Lochowside woods: The stool of oak, upon a farm of 40l. rent, cut down, when only 20 years old, for bark and charcoal, though these articles could be exported only by an expensive land carriage, sold, more than 30 years ago, at 800l. sterling. What then must be the value of such woods, when they can be removed by water carriage; some of them probably manufactured into farming utensils for the comparatively woodless districts of Kintyre,Islay, Bute, and Arran, and the other Western Islands? when the establishment of the canal will make ship building no inconsiderable article of the Lochow trade? or, when the Lochow oaks will attract the attention of government, and be carefully preserved for the purposes of the Royal Navy?

But, though salmon, wool and timber would be the chief articles of exportation; they are by no means to be considered as the only ones. A valuable lead mine has been wrought with advantage, for a considerable time past, at Tiendrom, within 12 miles of the extremity of Lochow, most distant from the proposed canal. Lead and iron ore have likewise been found

found in different places in the immediate vicinity of the lake. On the estate of Mr M'Dougall of Hayfield there is fine and transparent granite. The pearl muscle, from which pearls of great value have been extracted, is to be seen in many of the Lochowfide and Glenurchy rivers. A rich vein of marble makes its appearance on the estate of Mr Campbell of Inverliver. And there are abundant quarries of limestone, of stone of the same quality with the Inverary or St. Catharine stone, and likewise of stone of the same nature with that of the Water of Ayr, used in polishing marble. The list of exportations may be closed, by mentioning hides, tallow, and the skins of goats, sheep, otters, badgers, and foxes.

As to articles of importation, it may be observed, that the inhabitants of Lochowfide and Glenurchy, many of them proprietors and gentleman farmers, are as fond of the conveniences and the luxuries of life as their neighbours, and as well able to afford them. It is plain, therefore, that the produce of the East and West Indies, added to European commodities, not found in their own country, such as wine, porter, beer, flour, herrings, salt, soap, flates, hemp, iron, &c. would form their imports.

One article of importation, however, coals, deserves more particularly to be insisted on; as it would add, in an almost inconceivable degree, to the other imports, and to the exports, did the legislature shew so much indulgence, not to say policy or justice, as to remove the tax upon it.* The introduction of this one article, free from taxes, to Lochow, would give it a degree of consequence and prosperity, which a lover of his country cannot take even a prospective view of without exultation. Instead of exporting the raw materials of timber, wool, &c. the industry of the people would be, in the first instance, directed to the more beneficial employment of

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* Since this paper was written, the tax on coals has been happily repealed.

home manufacture. The timber would lay a foundation for ship-building, and the making of farming utensils; the charcoal and minerals, for furnaces and founderies; the bark, for tanneries; and the wool, for spinning, carding, weaving, and all the other branches of the woollen trade. No where are there to be found streams better adapted than those which run into Lochow, from their copious and constant supply of water, to give motion to the machinery used in the various branches of manufacture. One of those, the Water of Avich, which gives name to the parish of Dalavich, merits notice, from its being particularly suited to the purposes of an extensive cotton work. It is fed by a fine lake, 3 miles in length, by one in breadth. It was never known to have been frozen. In the year 1740, when the salt water of Lochfyne at Inverary was frozen, so as to admit horses and carts, when most of the corn mills in Scotland were shut up for a length of time, which created general distress; the mill of Avich was kept constantly going, and afforded relief to the surrounding country.

The introduction of coal would tend to the prosperity of Lochow and Glenurchy; not only by giving rise to the establishment of manufactures, but likewise, by enabling the farmers to make greater quantities of lime, and to employ, in the improving of their moorlands and moors, that time which is now consumed in spoiling them, by searching for peats, or in the more hurtful occupation of cutting down the woods for fuel.

The promoting of the Lochow Canal, is particularly recommended to those noblemen and gentlemen who have already subscribed to that of Crinan. The two canals will be so mutually beneficial to each other, that they ought to have been included in one common survey, estimate, and subscription. Does Crinan Canal bring the communication with the sea nearer to Lochow? The Lochow Canal doubly repays that advantage,

advantage, in becoming an excellent feeder to it, and in subjecting the whole trade of Lochow and Glenurchy to its lock-ages. The greater the general trade, the more reasonably may the lock dues on each vessel be afforded: and thus the Lochow Canal, will powerfully contribute to take away all inducement, from the traders round the Mull of Kintyre, to continue that dangerous navigation, or to wish that a cheaper passage had been made at Tarbert.

That a canal, begun by nature, and of which 36 measured, or 24 computed miles are already finished, in a style of superb magnificence, to equal which would exhaust the treasures of the king of Delhi; that such a canal should not be completed, when it can be done at the trifling expence of 10,000*l*. would be an eternal stain on the lustre of that brilliant liberality and public spirit, which have, on other occasions, so nobly and usefully distinguished the present age.

PROSPECTUS

OF

A CANAL FROM FORTWILLIAM TO INVERNESS.

By the Rev. Mr FRASER.

SIR,

Gigba, 20th April, 1793.

YOUR printed card, of the 28th of December last, I had the honour of receiving only very lately, having been confined on the Mainland for some months by sickness.

As the Statistical Account of this parish, was given in the beginning of August last, and the receipt of it acknowledged, by a card from Thurso Castle, the same month, I presume it is unnecessary to draw out a second state of it.

From the conclusion of your card, wherein it is mentioned that any more hints would be acceptable, I am encouraged to

send the inclosed letter, which was written in winter last, and which I intended to suppress, as I was prevented from sending it in time, for the reason already mentioned. I leave the letter itself, to plead my excuse, for the freedom of troubling you with my correspondence, when I well know that your time must be taken up with that of others, more worthy your attention. The inclosed contains only a part of a plan, which, if wholly completed, would be an everlasting monument of the public spirit of this age, and a permanent source of advantage to the nation. If it be not disagreeable, and that health permit, I will endeavour to mention the rest afterwards.

I am, with profound respect, Sir,

Your most obedient,

and most humble servant,

WILLIAM FRASER.

SIR,

Gigba, 21st December, 1792.

IN the Statistical Account of this parish, I hinted at the advantages of a canal across the isthmus of Crianan in Argyleshire, and of another between Fortwilliam and Inverness. With regard to the former, it must afford pleasure to every lover of national improvements to understand, that the subscription for that important work is now completed, and consequently that there is a prospect of its being soon carried into execution. Besides the advantages resulting from it to the public, it will be attended with the happiest effects to the poor mariner, at this season of the year, when the navigation round the Maoil of Ceanntire is so difficult and dangerous.

If it be not reckoned too great presumption, I would beg leave to mention some things which occur to me, respecting the inland navigation between Inverness and Fortwilliam. This tract I have had occasion to travel often; and, though nei-
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ther my studies nor views were directed to such subjects, I could not resist a certain impulse which led me, repeatedly, to examine the ground, and still makes me ardently wish, that, some time or other, a national spirit of improvement would be excited to open this communication, which nature seems to have intended, as the most important object, for commercial enterprize, that ever was undertaken in Great Britain.

There is no person of common observation that travels from Fortwilliam, through Strath Lochy, to Inverness, but must be struck with the astonishing contrast, between a level, upwards of 60 miles long, extending across the island from sea to sea, and ranges of the highest hills in Scotland on both sides. This level, which is nearly in a straight line from N. E. to S. W. consists of land and water: so that nature not only favours such an undertaking (by the flatness of the ground), but has in fact completely finished more than one half of it already. Lochness is reckoned 20 miles in length, Loch Lochy 16, and Loch Oich 5; in all, upwards of 40 miles.

To enumerate all the advantages of this navigation, is a task I am not qualified to undertake; but to those who are conversant in the seafaring and commercial lines, and who have enlarged views of the present state of the country, they must be obvious and striking, even upon a bare inspection of the map. As they occur to me, the advantages of this canal may be considered in three points of view: First, As it respects the adjacent countries; Secondly, The commercial interest of England and Ireland; and Lastly, The improvement of the fisheries, and the introduction of trade and manufactures into the Western Isles and Highlands of Scotland.

I. On the north side of this level or valley, are the countries of Urquhart, Glenmorison, part of Abertarf, Glengary, and that part of Lochaber which surrounds Locharcraig and thence

thence extends to the head of Lochial. On the south side lies Strathharrie, part of Abertarf, Letterfinlay, Keppoch and Glen-navas. All these extensive countries, abound with excellent woods, (consisting chiefly of oak, ash, elm, birch and fir;) which at present, however, are of no great value to the proprietors, nor of any real advantage to the public, for want of water carriage to bring them to market. In all parts of these countries, bordering on the sides of the supposed canal, there are rivers, and copious streams of water, for working all kinds of machinery: and, notwithstanding the emigrations that have taken place from some of the districts, there are still many inhabitants, who, by habits of industry, might become a valuable acquisition to the manufacturing and seafaring part of society. The lakes and rivers are well stored with salmon and trout; the low grounds, for the most part, capable of being rendered very fertile; and the hills not surpassed by any in Scotland for sheep ranges. In short, this valley between Inverness and Fortwilliam, were the canal opened, and manufactures established on both sides of it, would soon become the centre of trade in the Highlands; where the mechanic, the merchant, and the manufacturer, would find sufficient employment, and the industrious labourer meet with due encouragement.

II. With regard to the commercial interest of England and Ireland, a canal here, on such a scale as to admit vessels drawing about 16 feet water, would be attended with most solid and permanent advantages. All ships from Ireland and the west coast of Britain, bound for the east coast, for Holland, or the Baltic, could perform their voyage in, at least, a third less time than now, and with greater safety. In like manner, all the West India and American traders, from the east of Scotland and north-east coast of England, could avoid the circuitous and dangerous navigation of the Pentland Firth;

Firth; and, in time of war, could rendezvous at Inverness or Fortwilliam, protected by strong forts, and in harbours that may justly be reckoned among the safest and most capacious in the kingdom. Besides, a frigate or two, stationed in the Moray Firth between Peterhead and Fort George, together with as many on the west coast, between the sound of Mull and the north of Ireland, could afford greater protection to our trade in those quarters, than many times the number at present, when the navigation round the north of Scotland is so scattered.

III. As to the Western Isles, and the opposite coast of the Highlands, where every thing, but proper encouragement from the government, contributes to raise them to the highest eminence, in a commercial and maritime view, the benefits of this canal would be immense. Thousands, who are lost to themselves and to the world, might be usefully employed. Many families, who pine in want, might live in affluence; and several, who, contrary to their inclination, are obliged to leave their native soil, and remove to other states, might contribute to the strength and wealth of their own country. Large tracts of land, now in a barren state, might be improved; and those parts, which at present afford but a scanty subsistence to a small number of inhabitants, might be so far meliorated, as, with the help of commerce, to support a numerous population.

That the above assertions may not appear too bold or exaggerated, let it be observed, that the herring fishing, which at present is entirely confined to one side of the kingdom, would, by means of this canal, become open to both; so that twice the number of hands might be employed in that branch: and the cod and ling fishing, which is yet but in its infancy, might be carried on as extensively as the herring fishing. In all the attempts hitherto made in the white fish-

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ing, people have been employed at a great expence from the east country. These people, having no permanent place of residence on the west coast, are in general exposed to so much fatigue and danger on their journey over land, or in their passage round, through the Pentland Firth, and are liable to so many inconveniences, on their arrival, for want of proper lodgings, and other accommodations, that their exertions must be languid, and of course their success precarious. This being the case, it is no wonder, that adventurers in the white fishing, after being at considerable expence and trouble, should drop the plan as totally impracticable. Now, were the canal opened, all these obstacles might be removed. Large vessels, with every conveniency along with them, might be fitted out from Cromarty, Inverness, and other towns in the Moray Firth, which, in the course of a few days, might sail to the fishing grounds, where they could choose safe harbours in the neighbourhood of the best banks. Besides the advantage of having all their necessaries on board, the prospect of returning soon to their families and friends would double their industry and exertions. In this way, the white fishing would soon become successful: and the natives of the Western Isles, by their intercourse with the east country people, would acquire the knowledge of it in a short time, and be able to co-operate with their instructors in bringing it to such perfection, and carrying it on to such an extent, as to become a considerable object in the commerce of the kingdom.

By means of this canal, the salmon fishings on the west coast could also be improved, and have ready access to the London market. Thus they would become very valuable to the proprietors; though hitherto they have almost all been little attended to, except that of Lochy, near Fortwilliam, where

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it is principally carried on by men hired from Nairn, Findhorn, or Speymouth.

Thus it seems evident, that opening the Strathlochry Canal, would be productive of very great advantages to the Highlands, in respect of the fisheries alone. Besides these, however, there are many other articles of commerce, which would occupy the sailor, the handycraftsman, and the labourer. Men of all these denominations would find constant employment, about the slate works of Eisdale and Bala-cholais, the lead mines of Suanard, the copper mines of Kishorn (near Applecross), and the marble quarries of Tiree and Icolmkill: to which may be added, the limestone, shell sand, and kelp of the Western Islands, and all the oak woods of the west coast, especially those of Lorn, Appin, Morven and Ardnamurchan*. But, without dwelling any longer on particulars, it may be safely affirmed, that, by fishing, and an interchange of commodities between the east and west coasts of Scotland, through this canal, exclusive of the advantages in trade and the number of people occupied in different works, fifty seamen for one now, at a moderate calculation, might be employed in those parts. Connected with the other two canals, this one would occasion a circulation in trade; which is as necessary to the existence of the commercial system, as the circulation of fluids is to that of the animal body. And, lastly, all the improvements in fishing, farming, mechanics, and manufactures, of the east country, might easily be communicated to the inhabitants of the west.

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* Several of these articles are manufactured already, but not near so extensively as they might be, were the communication with the east coast, through this canal, opened. The proprietors of those places are deeply interested in promoting this plan.

As some people, from confined ideas, may think, that the interest of those, concerned in the Clyde and Crianan inland navigation, would suffer, were this canal carried on; it will not be improper to observe, that the advantages to be derived from the former, can never be fully experienced, till the latter be opened. The three, taken together, as hinted at above, will form a chain, in the system of internal commerce, which will be productive of advantages never to be derived from them singly, or from any two of them, without the third.

Let us now suppose, that, in any part of England, the communication from the east to the west coast were, for 200 or 300 miles, interrupted by high mountains, except in one place, where there was an opening or flat across the country; nay, let it be supposed, that, in such a situation, there were only two vallies penetrating from each coast into the country, and approaching in a straight line within a short distance of each other, where their junction was interrupted by a cross ridge of hills: In this case, where nature had done so much, though she did not complete the whole level, the enterprising spirit, for which our southern neighbours are so justly famed, would, long since, have been exerted to surmount every difficulty, in order to open such a communication; not only by cutting a canal in the level part of the ground, but also, by piercing through the hill or mountain which occasioned the interruption. What shall we say, then, of ourselves, for our want of attention to this great object of national improvement; where nature has, not only given us a continued level from sea to sea, but has likewise performed more than one half of the work to our hand, by a chain of lakes, where ships of the line could sail with safety?

Besides the above advantages, for facilitating this great undertaking, nature has been favourable in other respects.

There

There is hardly any continuance of frost in this valley to interrupt the navigation in the winter season. Lochness never freezes, and Loch Lochy seldom. Now, if the canal were made on a large scale, (from 16 to 18 feet deep,) there would be almost a certainty of its continuing always open; especially when we take into the account, the number of springs which abound at the bottom of such high mountains, many of which must be opened in the tract of the canal.

Another thing worthy of notice is, that the summit (or highest ground at *Lagan-achandrom*’, between Loch Lochy and Loch Oich, which is a flat, about two miles long, and half a mile broad,) could be constantly supplied with water from both sides by two burns; one shelving down the hill on the south side, about the middle of the ground, and another larger one on the north side, which runs into Loch Lochy at the west end of the summit, but which could easily be brought into the canal, if found necessary.

Upon the whole, the facility of accomplishing a work of such magnitude and importance, highly deserves the attention of every one who has the interest of his country at heart. May I, therefore, be permitted to indulge the pleasing hope, that one, who has so eminently distinguished himself, in promoting national improvements, as Sir John Sinclair, will, at some seasonable time, use his influence to direct the attention of government and of the public to this great object? The happiness of thousands of virtuous and loyal subjects, as well as the internal wealth and strength of the British empire, might be promoted by it. This, at least, is the persuasion of one, who, though little acquainted with the world, and confined to a retired corner, rejoices in the prosperity of his country, and, if in his power, would cheerfully promote it. This being his firm persuasion, he humbly hopes, it will be deemed a sufficient apology

logy for the liberty he has taken in this address, and in attempting to write on a subject which, he doubts not, may have been communicated to Sir John Sinclair by persons much better qualified to do it justice, than the writer of this letter can pretend to be.

With the greatest respect,

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient,

and most humble servant,

WILLIAM FRASER,

P. S. The principal proprietors, in those countries which lie on both sides of the supposed canal between Fort-William and Inverness, are,

The Duke of Gordon,	Mr M'Donel of Glengary,
Sir James Grant of Grant,	Mr Cameron of Lochial,
Mr Frazer of Lovat,	Major Cameron of Earachd,
Mr Baillie of Dochfoor,	Capt. Cameron of Gleneavas,
Mr Grant of Glenmorison,	&c.

Proprietors alluded to in page 297:

The Duke of Argyle,	Mr M'Kenzie of Applecrofs,
Marquis of Tweeddale,	Mr Campbell of Lochnell,
Earl of Breadalbane,	Mr Campbell of Airds.
Sir James Riddel,	

A LET-

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LETTER,

TO

SIR JOHN SINCLAIR, BART.

ON

THE STATE OF NATIONAL EDUCATION
IN SCOTLAND.

By N. K.

*Men are the growth our nobler realms supply,
And Souls are ripen'd in our northern sky.*

Miss Aikin.

SIR,

ON the publication of your propofals for compiling a Statistical Account of Scotland, I was no lefs struck with the novelty of the design, than gratified with the prospect of its execution. From the united exertions of the clergy, a body highly respectable in point of rank, character and abilities, residing on the districts recommended to their investigation, possessed of leisure to examine them with precision, and of access to every private source of intelligence, it was natural to expect a production, which no traveller, however assiduous in his labours, could equal as to extent, nor, however minute in his enquiries, could approach as to accuracy. But,
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among the various articles of a work, the plan of which embraces every object of importance, either respecting the country or its inhabitants; I confess my surprize was great, to find, in the earlier volumes, so little attention paid to the general state of education, or the national means of instruction provided for the lower classes of the people. In the latter part of the work, indeed, the subject has been taken up with a proper degree of spirit; and the clergy have evinced themselves worthy of their trust, by the pertinent and liberal remarks they have made on this interesting topic. A regular essay, however, it is thought, would exhibit the matter in a more forcible and effectual point of view, than cursory and unconnected observations; especially, as it is not, like many other branches of the statistical enquiry, affected by local differences: and the same remarks are, indiscriminately, applicable to the country at large.

Under these circumstances, the following memoir is submitted to your attention, without preface or apology. It consists, partly of facts, and partly of observations; points out the most striking defects and hardships in the mode of education at present employed in Scotland; and proposes some remedies, which perhaps might be applied, if not with success, at least with safety. Should it afford one hint for further enquiry, or contribute the smallest portion of materials to your work, a valuable purpose would be answered. To that undertaking it owes its origin: an undertaking to which the public are highly indebted; as it has given birth to many excellent papers, which, but for its fostering protection, would probably never have been published; or, had they been published, would have been buried in obscurity, without obtaining the regard due to their merit, or promoting the benevolent intentions of their authors.

In every country celebrated for the wisdom of its legislation, and the virtue of its inhabitants, the culture of youth, you well know, has been considered as an object of the highest consequence, and has been provided for by the united exertions of abilities and care. It would be an affront, to load the page with quotations from the historian and philosopher, or to mention examples of governments in ancient or modern times; since they are too obvious to be overlooked, and too memorable to be forgotten. Statesmen, by whose salutary regulations the interests of knowledge and morality have been promoted, and sovereigns, under whose fostering auspices they have flourished, now enjoy the reputation justly due to their deserts. Learning gratefully repays the favours which she received; and with honours, superior, in the eyes of judicious posterity, to those of heroes and of conquerors, decorates the memory of her friends. Such has been the meed assigned to the exertions of Lorenzo de Medicis and Peter the Great; and such, in the future annals of mankind, will be that of every minister or sovereign, who, like them, shall devote his abilities to the true improvement of the country over which he presides.

Of the excellence or propriety of any measure, the general practice and approbation of the wise has justly been considered as an almost unexceptionable proof. But, let us not appeal solely to the opinion of others, where we are fully enabled ourselves to judge; nor refer to experience alone, where reason also is competent to decide. To you, Sir, and to all who are versed in political science, the attentive culture of youth must appear a strict consequence from the soundest principles of that science. It is the ultimate object of every great legislator, to render his country powerful and happy. To be powerful and happy, the people must be virtuous and enlightened. Virtue and knowledge are not the growth
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of a day : they must be begun early, and continued long, take root in childhood, and advance with riper years. They are the fruits of education ; and in proportion as education is conducted with liberality and care, its fruit will arrive at excellence and maturity.

The original genius of the present governments of Europe was highly hostile to the propagation of learning. Barbarous courage, and blind attachment to a superior, were the only qualities that led to wealth, to advancement, and to glory. From the nature of the feudal system, each clan exerted a kind of repulsive power ; and being thus insulated, an effectual barrier was reared against all intercourse of friendship, and all communication of knowledge. Some princes, indeed, animated by the spirit, and worthy of the remembrance, of better times, bravely distinguished themselves from the contemporary herd ; recalled learning from her obscure retreats, and endeavoured to re-animate her expiring honours. But this dawn was soon overcast, from a quarter whence it was least to be expected. That religion, which was sent from heaven to be a light to enlighten the gentiles, and to remove the film of darkness from the intellectual eye, was converted into a powerful engine of ignorance and superstition. In the primitive ages of Christianity, the clergy had acquired an unexampled influence over the people, by the mild persuasion of their eloquence, and the undeviating rectitude of their conduct. Loth to relinquish their power, though they had already resigned their virtues, they contrived other means to preserve, if not to augment it. They established a new set of pretensions, laid claim to many supernatural endowments, and boldly deduced their superiority from the deputation of heaven. Gross and palpable assumptions like these can be admitted only by the most passive credulity ; and of such credulity, ignorance has always been

been found to be the fruitful mother. On the revival of learning, therefore, the alarm was immediately caught by the priesthood; every avenue for its farther diffusion was carefully barred; the people, by more than Mahometan severity, were not even indulged in the use of their bibles; and vigorous measures were adopted, to square their knowledge to the conveniences of the church, and to adjust their belief to the purposes of ghostly edification. Thus, the little lamp of learning, that had just begun to glimmer, though not totally extinguished, was not permitted to answer any beneficial purpose. It was employed in the investigation of no object of practical or moral tendency, and its beams were confined to the chambers of a few; while the darkness, in which the multitude were involved, was equally deplorable in its origin and its effects, and equally pernicious to the conduct of individuals, and to the spirit of society.

Britain had the felicity to be among the first of the nations that were emancipated from Popish slavery; and its inhabitants, of consequence, were soon distinguished by their enlightened sentiments and growing knowledge. A civil revolution, which soon after took place, contributed likewise to promote the same happy end. By the co-operation of these events, the means of instruction were laid open; and a taste for free discussion, and liberal enquiry, was communicated to all ranks of society. Many institutions were erected for the improvement of the poor; and many benefactions, both public and private, were bestowed, to reward the teachers, and to support the scholars. In the northern division of the island, however, the peasantry were still scantily supplied with opportunities of instruction, and slowly emerged from the barbarism and superstition of their fathers. Partial steps, indeed, had been taken, to enlighten that neglected region; but, by its distance from the seat of legislation, and other unfavourable

ble circumstances, less progress had been made, than was consistent with the enlarged views of true patriotism. In order, more fully, to remedy this inconvenience, in the second session of the first parliament of William and Mary, it was enacted, ' That there be a school and schoolmaster in every paroch; his fee not under an hundred marks, nor above two hundred; to be paid by the heritors and liferenters in the paroch, to have recourse for the half off their tenants; and that letters be therefore directed with the same privileges as to suspensions with ministers' stipends.' *W. & M. p. 1. s. 2. c. 24.*

This scheme was wisely conceived, judiciously executed, and attended with a proportionable degree of success. It was even liberal, for the days in which it was projected. The schools were numerous, and equally distributed; their endowments were competent to supply all the wants of mediocrity, without placing the master above the exercise of economy, or the exertion of industrious talents; and the tenure of these endowments was simple, permanent, and respectable. Of what rapid advantages the plan was productive, few, I presume, need to be informed: For, few are ignorant of the worthy characters, who have presided in these humble seminaries; of the distinguished names who have issued from them, to guide the helm of state, to preside on the bench of justice, or to adorn the various walks of literature*; but above all, of

* It is difficult for honest exultation to be silent, when, in the list of teachers, it has such names as those of Ruddiman and Beattie to recount; and, in that of scholars, such men as Fletcher, Adam Smith, and Lord Loughborough. In this place, Fletcher particularly deserves honourable mention. As a man, a citizen, a scholar, he was equalled by few. The importance of encouraging general education he thoroughly understood, and zealously enforced, in an essay on that subject, published with his other works. A school, likewise, which he established at Fraserburgh, on this principle, was long eminently useful; but the fund which supported it is now destined to another end.

of that large share of useful information, and sound morality, which has long been allowed to the great body of the Scottish nation.

For more than half a century, the institution operated with vigour, while its resources were unimpaired; and matters continued on the same footing as at the period of its establishment. But alas! Sir, the scene is now reversed; and with too much propriety it may be said,

Tempora mutantur, & nos mutamur cum illis.

From the uncommon diminution in the value of money, the emoluments of schoolmasters are totally inadequate to the support of their character; and it is to be feared, that, in the progression of a few years, they will become not sufficient even for the necessary purposes of subsistence. It is indeed a considerable time since this hardship was severely felt by the sufferers; and an application to parliament was made, by them, for a remedy to the increasing evil. Being then too young to take interest in these affairs, I am not acquainted with the particular plan of the bill, or the causes of its rejection. I have been informed, however, that it miscarried, partly by the imprudence of its friends, and partly by the malignity of its enemies: of friends, whose sufferings ought to have taught them more circumspection; and of enemies, whose rank and situation ought to have been attended with more liberal views.

From some advertisements in the public prints, it appears, that the design is not yet totally relinquished, and that thoughts are still entertained of offering it once more to parliamentary consideration. I trust, it will be with better omens; for it is to be hoped, that imprudence is now corrected, and that malignity has had time to subside. The case, indeed, is become so urgent, that not only unbiassed reflection, but even interested prejudice, must acknowledge the necessity of

speedy relief. Of this, the following simple statement of facts will afford the clearest evidence; a statement, which I am enabled to make with fulness and accuracy. My access to information is but too copious; for I lately was a member of that unprotected class of society: and a transient blush now tinges my cheek, while I am about to expose the meanness of their condition, and the many degrading necessities to which they are reduced in the regulation of their wretched economy. Your ears, Sir, are not unaccustomed to such homely tales of distress; nor has your attention been seldom employed in so minute arrangements. You will not therefore be disgusted at the coarse picture of life which it presents; nor will you be inclined to disregard what some may consider as trifling and unimportant. But, let such remember, that a wound, however loathsome, must be probed, before the remedy can be applied; and that a disease, which appears trivial to the beholder, is often attended with inward torture, and approaching death to the patient.

Quantulacunque estis, vos ego magni habeo.

In Scotland, there are at present more than 500 schoolmasters on the legal establishment*, none of whom receive above 16l. sterling a-year, including every emolument and perquisite annexed to his office. Of this, seldom above one half is stated salary; the other part being entirely contingent and uncertain. A considerable number fall even greatly short of this trifling pittance; which, by an established imposition, is divided into such minute† proportions, that not only much trouble is incurred in the collection, but even part of the

* There must be in all above 900 parochial schoolmasters, 500 of whom have but this miserable allowance. The average of Aberdeenshire is only 15l.

† The heritors, instead of paying the salary themselves, as directed by the act, commonly parcel it out in fractions of about 3d. or 4d. among perhaps 50, or 100 tenants, which they leave the master to extort in the best way he can.

the sum inevitably dwindles away. From such an allowance, the schoolmaster is to furnish, for himself, and his family, if any family has the misfortune to be connected with him, all the requisites of a decent subsistence, suitable to his station in society. It ought to be observed, indeed, that he is generally accommodated with the bare walls of a small hovel, which forms part of the public school-house. But of this convenience he can seldom avail himself: for, beside accidental circumstances, its size, for the most part, is so small, as not to afford accommodation for more than a single person; and its state of repair such, as to render it fitter for the climate of Italy, than to repel the piercing blasts of the north, or the 'pelting of the pitiless storm.'

How inadequate such a provision must be for the purpose, let those gentlemen judge, for judge they surely can, who must now purchase the labour of servants in husbandry at nearly the same annual cost; whether they hire them by the year, or by the day, and whether they maintain them as part of their family, or allow them a stipulated sum as the price of their service. How adequate it is, let those labourers also declare, and they honestly will, who are thus obliged to model their desires and their wants on the narrow basis of such an income. In the third volume of your Statistical Account, which often so successfully elucidates the present situation of the country, we have a table of the expenses of a common labourer, with a wife and four children; which, though perhaps not quite accurate in some particulars, gives a just idea of their manner of subsistence, on the whole. The amount, it may be observed, rises rather above the emolument of schools; although, from the details, which I subjoin, it seems difficult to imagine on what article the expence could well be abridged.

TABLE,

TABLE, &c.

House rent, with a small garden,	-	L. 1	0	0
Peats, or fuel,	-	0	6	0
A working jacket and breeches, about	-	0	5	0
Two shirts, 6s. ; a pair of brogues, 3s. ; two pairs of stockings, 2s	-	}	0	11
	-			
A hat, 1s. ; a handkerchief, 1s. 6d.	-	0	2	6
A petticoat, bed-gown, shift, and caps, for the wife,		0	9	0
A pair of stockings, 1s. ; brogues, 2s. 6d. ; apron, 1s. 6d. ; napkin, 1s. 6d.	-	}	0	6
	-			
A shirt, 12s. ; brogues, 2s. ; stockings, 1s. for each of the four children,	-	}	1	0
	-			
Other clothes for the children, about 4s. each,		0	16	0
School wages, &c. for the children,	-	0	10	0
Two stone of oat-meal per week, at 1s. 8d. per stone,		8	13	4
Milk, 9d. per week ; butter, 3d. per ditto,	-	2	12	0
Salt, candle, thread, soap, &c.	-	0	13	0
Tear and wear of the man's and wife's Sunday clothes,		0	10	0
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From this detail, it is evident, that a labourer, with such an income, is barely enabled to protract existence, without enjoying what are now accounted the comforts of life. The meagre food, on which he is condemned to subsist, is neither calculated to strengthen the body for continued labour, nor to invigorate the animal economy; but, on the contrary, debilitates the system, injures all its material operations, and predisposes it for receiving and generating numerous and destructive distempers. In many respects, however, the schoolmaster labours under still greater disadvantages than the peasant. By the customs of the world, the latter is allowed to exert his industry and frugality in many cases, where that privilege is denied to the former. The one,

at his hours of leisure, can, with his own hand, provide many of the necessaries of a family, which the other is obliged to purchase with a part of his little income; and the one can appear with decency in clothing, which would entail certain ridicule and contempt on the other.

Such is the picture of scholastic endowments, and scholastic happiness, in a large portion of North Britain: a picture, where no shade is deepened by the colouring of discontent, and no trait added by the pencil of exaggeration. In the hands of some, it would afford ample materials for pathetic description, for indignant remonstrance, and for pointed satire. In Great Britain, that nursery of freedom and philosophy; in the 18th century, when the value and blessings of knowledge and literature are so well understood, and so highly prized; and in the reign of George the third, ever deemed propitious to the arts and sciences; shall it be said, that the lowest tax-gatherer enjoys an income double of that with which the instructor of youth is provided, and that the aggregate salary of five hundred schoolmasters amounts to so inconsiderable a pittance as 8000*l*.? Forbid it, justice, virtue, honour!

Leaving such reflections to more auspicious times, and more congenial pens; I shall content myself with a few observations on the injustice and the inexpediency of such a system: and which, to use the language of the schools, will serve to demonstrate its impropriety, both *a priori* and *a posteriori*.

It is a principle, laid down by an eminent political writer, and which is generally recognised in society, that the exercise of every trade or profession ought to be lucrative, in proportion to the time and expence bestowed in acquiring it. Arts that are soon and easily learnt, as they can be practised by many, must of consequence be cheap. But he who serves a long apprenticeship, who pays a weighty fee, or who enters
into

into an expensive corporation, always adduces those circumstances as pleas for enhancing the value of his labour. And the practice appears to be founded in the strictest laws of justice. Every trade is expected to furnish subsistence to the exerciser, and to reimburse the original expenditure; else it will be a losing business, and must soon become extinct. He, therefore, whose risk of time or money has been comparatively great, must proportionably increase his income; otherwise he injures his fortune, and leaves the world unable to perform for his posterity what his predecessors did for him. Now, the time and expence, attendant on the course of education necessary for a schoolmaster, are well known to be considerable: the former, longer than is employed in the acquisition of most other arts; and the latter, more than is required for the knowledge of many. They also enter into a kind of corporation, which, while it excludes a great number, does not operate, by that exclusion, to the benefit of the rest. It is, therefore, highly unjust, that their wages should be so inadequate*; it is highly unbecoming the nation, which regulates those wages; and it is highly injurious to virtue, by discouraging one of the most useful and important professions.

There is another principle, which seems not less founded in justice, nor less recognised in the code of honour; namely, the duty of fulfilling engagements. If an individual declare that he has the disposal of a place of a certain annual value, and invite persons properly qualified to become candidates for that place; should the situation turn out inferior to his

* A report has been some time in circulation, that it is intended to augment the salaries of that class of revenue officers, called gaugers; and perhaps it may be a very necessary and proper measure. But surely, if men of their education and utility are entitled to more than 30*l.* a-year, schoolmasters deserve something above 16*l.*

his description of it, has he not betrayed his trust? has he not subjected himself to the censure of every honest man? nay, is he not cognizable by law, and liable to be prosecuted for damages? As it is with individuals so it is with nations. The British government once had 900 schools in Scotland, which they offered as situations for the acceptance of young men of learning and virtue. The emoluments of these schools afforded a moderate subsistence; and as the institution was declared perpetual, it was reasonably expected that they would still continue to afford the same. Many, therefore, were educated with a view to conduct those seminaries, and several are still prepared for that employment. But one half of the places are now nearly nominal, and scarcely produce so comfortable a livelihood as the most common manual labour, which requires no previous education. Have not those youths, then, who for such disappointed hopes, not only relinquished their probable destination, but also unfitted themselves for any other; have not they a claim, not on the generosity, but on the good faith and justice of the nation? Have they not a right to demand provision? And how can they be provided for more naturally, more eligibly, or more advantageously, than by augmenting the salaries of the decayed seminaries, and thus again laying open to them their original employment? Were it for nought but their situation alone, we are warranted to pronounce the present state of schools illiberal and unjust.

A third consideration occurs, which ought to have much weight with a generous legislature, and which seems intimately connected with distributive justice. Hardship and misery should always be regarded in a comparative view; their real influence can be ascertained, only by examining the relations of those objects, on which they operate. Hunger and cold, sleepless nights and toilsome days, seem but trifles to the har-

dy rustic, while they prove utterly insupportable to the man of softer education; and the outrages of lawless lust, which are more dreadful than death to the female of a delicate and virtuous soul, are little felt and soon forgotten by her, who has been long resigned to licentious pleasure. Distress, when it falls on those who have seen better days, as it is more poignant to the sufferers, is generally more commiserated by the spectators. To the positive hardships of the schoolmaster, which we have shewn to be of no small magnitude, are superadded all those which arise from education and habit. A cultivated mind, improved sensibility, some acquaintance with the comforts of life, and previous hopes of attaining those comforts; all conspire to deepen the gloom of present poverty. In relieving the wretched, then, these ought to be considered in the foremost rank of sufferers, especially as their distress is the consequence of chance, not of folly; and if they are overlooked, it must be a constant stigma, not only on the feelings, but the justice of the nation.

Having now examined the *nature* of the scholastic system, which is certainly repugnant to equity, let us next glance at the *consequences*, which appear not less hostile to general expediency. The first important consequence is, that the schools are not supplied with proper teachers, these being either too young, or possessed of too little knowledge; or, what is very commonly the case, perhaps deficient in both respects. A second consequence consists in the continual fluctuation of masters, who seldom occupy the same department even for a few years, and who are always ready to quit the profession for any opening in another line*. Hence frequent vacancies, and

* The greater part of school salaries at present are enjoyed by expectants of the church. That an alliance should take place, and might take place with advantage between the two professions, seems highly probable. It would no doubt
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and a regular influx of novices, who have neither abilities nor inclination to discharge aright the functions of the office which they undertake. A third effect is, that such teachers as are really qualified for their duty, soon lose all incentive to exertion, become low-spirited, careless, irregular, and, from their dependance on the petty patronage of parents, often partial and unequal in their attention. Dignity of character, and consistency of conduct, are likewise wanting; than which no qualities are more essential to an instructor of youth, or more conducive to the efficacy of his labours. The general result appears to be, what clergymen frequently observe and lament, though they seem to have overlooked this leading cause of it, a great decay of information and of piety among the young, who are too much immersed in ignorance and dissipation.

Few, as I before observed, who acknowledge the justice of the foregoing representation, will hesitate in admitting the propriety, nay, even the necessity of a speedy interference;

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such

be very favourable to the interests of virtue, that the aged should be admonished and exhorted by those, who have been accustomed to instruct and discipline the young. It would also tend much to the comfort of the teachers of knowledge and morality, to have wherewithall to prosecute their juvenile studies, and, as a reward for their meritorious exertions, to enjoy the *otium cum dignitate* in their declining years. Such a union, however, ought to be formed on equal terms; and both parties should be mutually subservient to their common interest. But the case is different. The schools at present are degraded into mere nurseries for the church, and are taught by students in divinity, who, being nominated for the most part by the interest of the minister, perform just as much of the duty as entitles them to the emoluments. This situation occasions an undue dependance on the clergy, and is not propitious, on either side, to the strict discharge of duty. Now, were there to be a preponderance of advantages to either party, the sense of mankind would perhaps give it in favour of the teachers, as most important and essential to virtue. It might then be regulated that the church should be solely supplied by schoolmasters, to succeed according to seniority in office; and to have no other opportunity of relinquishing their profession.

such an interference as will restore the institution to its primitive vigour, or at least prevent it from sinking into total inutility, or degenerating into a national detriment. But in an age of liberality and science, something more might be expected than such a measure, something more than the correction of abuses, and the removal of deficiencies, which the lapse of years alone has introduced: for it is hardly to be supposed that the plans of our ancestors, however excellent and comprehensive for the times when they were delineated, were so perfect as to be for ever incapable of extension or improvement. Pity it were, then, that any reformation should be undertaken on a scale so inadequate to the enlarged views of the present day, or that any remedy should be applied, which would operate only partially, and produce at best but an imperfect and fleeting cure. The pens of many eminent modern philosophers have been employed on the theory of education, and from their united labours much assistance might be derived in improving and reforming the state of our schools. After such names as those of Milton, Locke, Rousseau, Priestley, and many others, it might be deemed presumptuous, in an *obscure* individual, to offer even a few hints on the subject; were it not to be observed that the attention of these writers has not been minutely directed to the education of the lower classes of mankind, that their systems require more leisure and opportunity than the poor can command, and are not calculated for that universal and easy diffusion, which ought to be the leading object of national instruction; and, finally, that while they have carefully selected and arranged the best materials of knowledge, they have overlooked another point not less essential, the means of disseminating those materials. One gentleman of this country, indeed, whose early patriotism has not passed unnoticed, and two or three natives of the continent, whom, at the present juncture,

junction, it is unpopular to name, and perhaps dangerous to praise, have endeavoured to direct the public attention to this important subject; and in Germany it has of late obtained no inconsiderable degree of notice from the politico-philosophers of that extensive and improving country. But the exertions of these foreigners must be long continued before their object can be attained; steps of considerable magnitude must be taken by government, and several important changes effected, before such schemes can be put into execution. Happily, for us, no such violent measures are necessary; and no grand obstacles prevent our immediate acquisition of the end in view. We already enjoy an institution, which affords a tried and solid basis for any additional superstructure: an edifice which requires only to be repaired and enlarged, to supply every purpose of accommodation.

The following, or some similar, plan, with regard to parish schools, might be adopted; which would be not less easy and gentle in its execution, than effectual and important in its consequences.

In the first place—Salaries, adequate to the conveniences of life, ought to be provided for every school; in order to furnish inducements for men of abilities and worth to become the teachers. It might, perhaps, admit of some difficulty, to specify the precise sum proper to be fixed upon for this purpose; which would likewise be liable to vary in various districts of the country. But, could it be contrived, neither to enhance the price of education, (which ought to be fixed at as low a rate as possible,) nor to render the master entirely dependant on his scholars, and, at the same time, to fix on a progressive ratio of stipend, which would keep pace with the progressive influx of money and demands of life; every inconvenience would be obviated, and every valuable end would be answered. These salaries ought to be paid, annually, by
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the proprietors of land in each parish; without subjecting the schoolmaster to the disagreeable or vexatious mode of collecting it as a tax from the tenants. Decent and commodious apartments ought likewise to be erected, as well for the convenience of teaching, as for the residence of the teacher and his family.*

Secondly—Having made the proper provision for their support, no less care ought to be employed in procuring persons well qualified to occupy these departments. Age, character, and attainments, are indispensable requisites for the discharge of that important office. If we reflect on the prudence, the patience, and the perseverance, necessary for the successful management and instruction of youth; it must appear preposterous to commit such a charge to any person, at a period, when the law does not consider him as competent to the conduct of his own concerns. Before the age of twenty-one, it is generally vain to look for steadiness or discretion of behaviour; and, without steadiness and discretion, it is equally vain to devote the most distinguished talents to the business of education.—If we likewise reflect on the reverence with which children are accustomed to look up to their master, and their proneness to copy him in every respect; the importance of purity of manners, and integrity of character, will be no less evident. The greatest deference is due to youth; the conduct of their instructors ought not even to be liable to the breath of suspicion: on the contrary, it ought to be a powerful auxiliary to their precepts, and a living model for the imitation

* A certain proportion of every pound of real rent, would possibly answer best as a progressive measure of salary. The odious and unprofitable tax on births and marriages also, if raised to five shillings on each, and set apart as a fund for increasing school fees, would be paid cheerfully, and produce the best effects.

imitation of their pupils. Without such a character, we cannot expect from a teacher the conscientious discharge of his duty, nor from the scholars much improvement in principle or virtue, when his example is at continual war with his injunctions.—Of what literary attainments a schoolmaster ought to be possessed, it will not be difficult to form an estimate, by reviewing the task which we expect him to perform. That he should issue from one parish school, perfectly accoutred for undertaking the management of another, though practice has of late countenanced the mode, common sense will not be ready to admit. To conduct even the initiatory and simple parts of education, in a manner not entirely mechanical, a certain enlargement of ideas, and extension of views, is absolutely requisite. If the knowledge of the master has been acquired entirely in school, it is likely that it will be in constant danger of rivalry from that of the elder students; and, where no stock of general information renders him superior, a thousand situations must occur, where he finds it impossible to act the part of an instructor, and a thousand difficulties must be started, which his ingenuity cannot resolve. To qualify him therefore for executing, in the best manner, the humbler departments of his office, some liberal mode of study must have been pursued: but nothing less than a regular course at the university, is sufficient preparation for teaching the true elements of knowledge, and communicating those general principles, which enable the learner to proceed by himself, and without which all learning is a mere automatic process.—None, therefore, ought to be admitted as parish schoolmasters, but such as are at least twenty-one years of age, who have taken their degree at the university, and who can produce liberal approbations of their moral character. It would likewise be extremely proper, on their entrance, to
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bring them under an obligation of residence for at least six years; with the solitary exception, of their being invited to the superintendence of a more extensive and lucrative seminary. Nothing has afforded a more general subject of complaint, than the frequent and sudden resignation of school-masters: nor with more justice; as nothing more effectually impedes the progress of the scholars, who generally require some time to accommodate themselves to the new dispositions, habits, and modes of teaching, of each succeeding preceptor.

These two preparatory steps being taken, the way is effectually paved for the accomplishment of the grand object; which, in my opinion, is of so high importance, as to deserve the attention, and demand the exertions, of every friend to virtue and to man. In addition to the common course at school, or rather, in addition to the art of reading and writing with facility and correctness; I would propose, the cultivation of reason, and the more extensive exercise of it on subjects of moral and natural science. The present system, far from giving general and equal play to the mental powers, affords employment for the memory alone. The other faculties are condemned to slumber in undisturbed repose; and, from this early inactivity, are neither allowed to acquire their natural vigour, nor habituated to their future functions. Like the puny limbs of some wretched son of luxury and ease, they are useless to their owner, when he has occasion for their aid; or, perhaps, prove positively hurtful, from the wrong bias which chance may have led them to assume. Arithmetic, the best praxis of reason, and the noblest field for the evolution of ingenuity and reflection, is commonly taught in the same manner as a mechanic is taught to handle his tools: and a few dogmas of speculative school-divinity, are substituted in place of familiar explanations of Christian duties, and engaging illustrations of them

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by apposite examples. In a word, general principles, which enable the scholar to think and observe for himself, to proceed in his former studies, or to strike out new paths, are entirely forgotten: and that mind, which excels the common herd, which learns the use of its own powers, and ventures to employ them, has no small degree of merit, for the obstacles which it encounters, and the difficulties which it overcomes. Those who affect to think meanly of the understandings of the vulgar, and who believe, or wish to make others believe, that the principles of science are mystical and abstruse, will smile with contempt at the visionary and absurd idea of a race of rustic philosophers, issuing from parish schools, to put in practice their maxims, on the threshing floor, or at the plough-tail. What! say they, attempt to infuse into children and peasants that which men of genius spend the prime of their days in acquiring, and what genius alone can acquire! But, such observations breathe more the spirit of a monkish college, than the liberality of an enlightened age. That the *mens sana in corpore sano* is oftener to be found in the cottage than in the palace, will, I believe, be universally admitted by those who know mankind best: nay, the inhabitants of the former are possessed of even superior advantages, from their familiar acquaintance with the works of nature, and the face of creation. Besides, were facts, and the natural observations that thence arise, (which constitute the whole of science,) released from the recondite terms in which they have been too long enveloped, science would no more appear abstruse: nor would it, on that account, lose any of its inviting charms; but, like beauty, as described by the poet, appear ‘when unadorned adorned the most.’

Let then that wretched system, which at present obtains, and daily grows more wretched, be banished from our schools. Let the scholars be arranged in proper classes, and supplied

with proper books. Let them be taught to read with accuracy, and to understand what they read. Those words which seldom or never occur in their circle of conversation, ought to be well explained, and an account of these explanations frequently repeated. Spelling and writing should also obtain their due share of attention. Let the principles of arithmetic, and especially *proportion*, be strictly inculcated, and illustrated with a variety of examples. Their ingenuity and reflection ought to be exercised on a diversity of questions, which they ought to be excited to solve in every possible way, without adherence to the given rule. The minutest enquiry should be made into the reasons on which they proceed; and those reasons they should be accustomed to state in their own words. Text books ought to be introduced, containing plain accounts of the obvious appearances of nature, and of the most interesting situations in life, with the best remarks arising out of the subject. These, while they are repeatedly perused by the scholars, should serve as a basis for the comments and illustrations of the teacher, to whom many opportunities must occur of explaining numerous circumstances, which could not properly find a place in the volumes. Of books intended for this purpose there is already no want; but they generally seem deficient either in design or in execution. All of them indeed are stored with facts and observations, which well deserve attention; but the manner in which these facts are introduced seldom excites or secures that attention, whether it be that the authors did not conceive proper plans, or were unable to realize their own conceptions.

One gentleman, well known as a literary character, has lately favoured the world with a few little volumes admirably calculated for the instruction and amusement of youth. They are composed of a mixture of moral and scientific discussions,

tions, commonly in the form of dialogues; and their peculiar excellence consists in the natural, though highly ingenious, method, whereby the reader is compelled to think for himself, and is led on, step by step, to fix his regard on those circumstances which merit principal consideration in every object under review. That this gentleman may complete what he has so happily begun, ought to be the wish of every parent and instructor of youth. He has, however, already rendered a very high service to the interests of education; erected the most durable monument to his own philanthropic ingenuity; and left a model for the imitation of all future authors in the same line *. Were some men of eminent abilities (and ordinary talents are unequal to the task) to devote part of their leisure to the continuation of his plan, a Juvenile Encyclopedia would soon be composed, stored, if not with the pomp, at least with the principles, of universal knowledge. Not that the whole of such a system could be taught at country schools; a small part of it only would completely occupy the little time that is allotted for the education of the multitude: but the remainder might afterwards usefully entertain their leisure hours, when winter and darkness prevent them from following the labours of the field.

The judgment of the teacher is supposed sufficient to direct him what parts of it ought to be introduced, according to the circumstances and views of his various scholars. The practical part of geometry, and the principles of mechanics, if taught

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* The performance here alluded to is entitled, 'Evenings at Home,' in four small volumes, by Dr. Aikin. The elegant pen of his sister, Mrs Barbauld, contributed the poetry, and, I believe, part of the moral dramas. Would she condescend to supply the chasm between the present work, and her 'Lessons for Children between three and four years of age,' she would add another to the many obligations both young and old are already under to her, for entertainment and instruction.

by the help of models; natural history, and the simpler parts of chemistry, which have an immediate connection with agriculture; are no doubt the most proper branches of instruction for the bulk of scholars, and best calculated for exercising and enlarging the youthful mind.—As to religion and morality; that department is already supplied by a volume, which is placed far above all idea of human emulation. Many parts of the sacred scriptures, indeed, are unnecessary for children, and some improper; but a judicious selection may easily be made: and where else can we find such genuine purity of morals, and unaffected simplicity of language? To the particular elucidation of this subject, the Sundays should be appropriated; when the more indigent, whose time is otherwise employed during the week, might be able to attend: and parents might have an opportunity of estimating the progress of their children, and encouraging their laudable ambition to improve.

Some acquaintance with the general and most obvious means of preserving and restoring health, ought to be cultivated; and perhaps a catechism, similar to that lately introduced in Germany *, might be taught with great propriety and success. Were the principles and nature of our constitution, laws, and liberties, explained, in some degree, to the lower classes, I doubt not but it would be attended with the happiest effects: for, assuredly, the more they are acquainted with their own government, the more they will be attached to its form, and the less disposed to countenance or admit wanton innovations.

It cannot escape notice, that the study of the classics is
purposely

* ‘The Catechism of Health,’ by Dr. Faust, introduced by authority into the dominions of the Prince Bishop of Wirzburgh. There is a translation printed for Dilly.

purposely excluded from this scheme. Not that I am so ungrateful as to disparage a study, to which I am proud to confess my obligations, as the *dulce lenimen laborum*, and the source of the most delicious pleasures. On the contrary, I would propose that distinct academies should be established, at convenient distances, for this branch of education alone; where it might be taught with more ease, and on a better plan, than is commonly the case in our schools. My only reason for discarding it from the general course, is, that the time allotted would be insufficient for both purposes. Those, who can afford to send their sons to school for a considerable number of years, ought undoubtedly to have them instructed in the languages of ancient Greece and Rome, as well as those of modern Europe. As for the assertion, that the study of grammar, and particularly of Latin grammar, is peculiarly adapted to invigorate and subtilize the intellectual faculties, and forms the best foundation for all other knowledge; it is so evidently founded on the narrow prejudices of pedagogues, and on a total ignorance of science, as scarcely to merit notice or reply. Yet, unhappily, it influences the practice of half the parents in Scotland, who compel their children to acquire even the knowledge of orthography and syntax, through the medium of an apprenticeship for two or three years to the study of Latin. With equal propriety they might begin to teach them hornpipes as soon as they are out of leading strings, or endeavour to make them sing that they might learn to speak.

From such an institution as the foregoing, properly conducted, what salutary, what glorious consequences might we not expect? What an increase of curiosity, of activity, of information, of wisdom, of probity, of liberal sentiment, and of rational enjoyment? The progression of ages would be attended with an accelerated progression of virtue; and the
happy

happy parents, surveying the long line of their descendants, would contemplate fairer models of themselves in each succeeding race.

Visions of glory, spare my aching sight !

Ye unborn ages, crowd not on my soul !

— An me ludit amabilis

Infania ! — Videor pios

Errare per lucos.

I well know, indeed, with what eagerness the mind embraces novelty, with what fond partiality it cherishes its own theories, and with what willing delusion it forbears to explore their defects. But, making allowance for these circumstances, and examining the scheme with the impartial eye of cool observation, it cannot be doubted, that the cause of agriculture and manufactures would be advanced; that a better source of employment would be opened for the vacant hours of the people; that consequently many superstitious opinions and barbarous customs would disappear; that the animal nature would gradually subject itself to the rational; and that daily approaches would be made to the most eligible state of man.

It now remains to consider the *ways and means* of supplying the proposed augmentation of salary. The most natural and obvious source undoubtedly is the landed property of each parish; and thus, in conformity to the original plan, the expence would ultimately devolve on those for whose benefit the seminaries were set on foot. To this measure, it might be supposed that gentlemen could have very little objection; considering the triple, nay quadruple, value their property has acquired, since the establishment of parochial schools, and especially as their money could not be expended in a way more beneficial to their estates, the best possible improvement being that of the race of *Men*, who are the springs and sinews of every other. But the aspect of the times

times leaves not much room to expect redress from this quarter. The state of public spirit warrants not a presumption that the heritors will of themselves bring forward such a measure; and their influence in parliament is too great, to allow us for a moment to suppose that it would be carried without their unanimous concurrence, much less in opposition to their declared sentiments.

Neither can the present juncture be deemed the most propitious for addressing the legislature on any topic of reformation. The national grievances which have lately solicited attention, are numerous, and in quick succession. Of these, some are so frivolous as not to require serious investigation; and some so incumbered with difficulties, as not to be easily capable of redress. Among the national improvements also, which reformers have been emulous to project, many are so visionary and problematical, as not to warrant the hazard of an attempt, and many so trifling and local, as not to compensate for the trouble of execution. But, independent of their insignificance or internal fallacy, the authors have generally defeated their own designs by the mode of application, which they have thought proper to adopt. Suspecting, perhaps, that their schemes would be suffered to slumber in neglect, and enraged to find those suspicions daily realized, they came forward in a body, determined as it were to overpower government by their importunity and number, and to exhaust its patience, if they could not convince its reason. Addresses and remonstrances were multiplied with rapidity, appeals were made to the people, and the nation was loudly called upon to attend to its interests, and to vindicate its rights. The nation, however, reposed more confidence in the wisdom of its legislation, which had been tried by experience, than in the pretensions of the new projectors, to which experience threatened to be the most formidable foe; and by si-

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lent disregard, reminded them to apply in future to that tribunal, to which alone with propriety application may be made.*

Mortified by disappointment, these gentlemen now consider it as vain to address the legislature on any subject, or in any form. Weariness and disgust, say they, have stopped the ears, and steeled the hearts, of the rulers of the land. Petitions, recommended by the importance of the matter, enforced by energy of composition, and supported by dignity of signatures, have been presented, and disregarded. What reception then can be expected, where the petitioners and the subject are equally unknown? Truth there no doubt is in this assertion, but it is involved in much exaggeration. Many of those in power certainly possess regard for the welfare of their country, that will not permit them to be fatigued

* Since the commencement of the present political ferment, there has been so much suspicion on the one side, and so much ambiguous design on the other, that it seems very proper, nay, almost incumbent, on every man, when he has occasion to mention the subject, to declare his sentiments in such a manner as that they may not be misunderstood. The present malcontents of Britain may be divided into two great classes. Of these, the first class, equally respectable for their abilities and inoffensive deportment, are no upstart petitioners at the bar of justice. Their complaints have long been before the public; and though zealous in their attempts to obtain redress, they have not overleaped the bounds of temperance. In the recent commotions, it has been their misfortune to be confounded with the other party, and thus involved in unmerited disgrace, on account of tenets and designs, which it is probable they never either encouraged or avowed.

Of the second class, we may warrantably say, with a late writer, that they are generally ‘men of weak heads, bad hearts, or ruined fortunes.’ Neither understanding the nature, nor relishing the blessings of true freedom, they seized the crisis of the French Revolution as a favourable opportunity to impel their countrymen to desperate deeds, and thus to acquire an unnatural importance by the indiscriminate subversion of every thing that was sanctioned by experience or antiquity. Never could the forcible language of the Roman historian be more justly applied, than to these revolutionists. ‘Falso libertatis vocabulum ab his usurpatum, qui privatim degeneres, in publicum exitiosi, nihil spei nisi per discordiam habeant.’ TACITUS.

tinged or disgusted in its service; and to whom truth and utility are accessible, at all times, and from every quarter, provided they are stated with candour, and urged with moderation. From those the present proposal solicits protection and encouragement. Should it not be deemed expedient to charge the landed property with the additional salary, it might be furnished from the public revenue without inconvenience. Five or six thousand pounds annually, would require the imposition of no new tax, nor the retrenchment of any former expence. A much larger sum is necessary to establish a new society, to fit out a voyage of discovery, or to found a distant colony. To these objects of national importance, our sovereign has not been inattentive. The same royal patronage and munificence might, with the happiest effects, be extended to the improvement of schools. Humbler in appearance, and less calculated to excite immediate attention, the advantages and the honours of such a measure would nevertheless grow like a tree in the silent progress of years; and in a short time, the labours of every arm would demonstrate its utility, and the accents of every tongue would testify its praise. To a commercial nation it would also be doubly valuable. For, as an excellent writer observes, ‘ the state
‘ of a nation’s wealth is not to be estimated from the state of
‘ its coffers, granaries, or warehouses, at any particular time,
‘ but from the fertility of its lands, from the numbers, frugality, industry, and skill of its people.’

That there are many who would concur with the landholders, though from different motives, in opposing the augmentation of schoolmasters’ salaries, is well known, and much to be lamented. Some would object to the measure, as injurious to the interests and the propagation of learning, by rendering the teachers too independent, and thus operating as a check on their diligence and exertions. With these gentle-

men, I most heartily agree, that instead of checks, every possible spur ought to be applied to their industry; but from the opinion that their present pittances answer the latter purpose, I feel myself obliged to dissent, as I think it is founded in a mistaken notion of human nature. All exertion is prompted by the hope of attaining some absent good. We are equally inactive when the attempt appears unnecessary, and when it appears impracticable. Despair no less effectually than possession prevents every endeavour. In this light, small salaries are at least as injurious as large; and if we allow any virtue or honest principle in the human breast, the one extreme must be fraught with more danger than the other. If then it is clear from experience, that the greatest number of scholars, whose abilities and attention can possibly assemble, are insufficient to furnish a decent and comfortable subsistence for the teacher; is it not likely that a happy medium of salary, rendering this practicable, and perhaps not difficult, would call forth more spirited exertions, and more unremitting diligence?

Another class of men are unfriendly to the augmentation, for reasons very different from the preceding, not because it would retard, but facilitate the progress of learning; an event which they deprecate as very pernicious to the lower classes of mankind. They talk much of the pride of science, and that 'little learning is a dangerous thing.' With this, they associate the idea of the people addicting themselves to vain speculations, of neglecting their humble and useful employment, of becoming discontented with their condition, and of ruining themselves by visionary projects. But, on this principle, the immediate abolition of schools, and the total extinction of knowledge, would be the most proper and meritorious measure that could be employed. And, if we could indeed by any means restore the happiness of primeval ages,

little

little reluctance ought perhaps to be shewn in receiving the ignorance and simplicity, on which that happiness was founded. But the latter is irrecoverably lost; luxury, refinement, and dissipation, are too universally diffused, and too deeply rooted, to admit of being eradicated;—all we can do, is to counteract their bad effects, by directing the mind to the pursuit of useful knowledge, and by fortifying it against the incursions of passion and appetite, by every consideration, which religion, philosophy, and science, afford. The nearest approach, that can now be made to the times of innocence, must take place in an agricultural life, where enlightened reason furnishes enjoyment, and protects from the contagion of vices, of which it is impossible to be ignorant.*

‘Men employed in cultivating the soil, if suffered to enjoy a reasonable independence, and a just share of the produce of their toil, are of simpler manners, and more virtuous, honest, dispositions, than any other class of men. The testimony of all observers, in every age and country, concurs in this; and the reason of it may be found in the nature of their industry, and its reward. Their industry is not like that of the labouring manufacturer, insipidly uniform, but varied; it excludes idleness without imposing excessive drudgery, and its reward consists in abundance of necessary accommodations, without luxury and refinement.’† Such are the words of a distinguished philosopher and philanthropist of the present day, the extension and accuracy of whose political views have not often been excelled; and I am happy to add, from his own authority, that he highly approves

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the

* A mesure que le Luxe corrompt les mœurs, les sciences les adoucissent; semblables aux prières dans Homère, qui parcourent toujours la terre à la suite de l'Injustice, pour adoucir les fureurs de cette cruelle divinité.

† See an *Essay on Property in land*, p. 27.

the plan of diffusing information among the people, and of teaching them the art of thinking and reasoning for themselves.

There are certain persons, and their number is not very small, who strenuously oppose any increase of salary to school-masters, or of knowledge among the peasants, because it would render them less disposed to be domineered over, and less easily manageable by the arts of fraud and oppression. With such I do not mean to employ any arguments, for I know of none that I could bring forward with honour to myself, and at the same time with efficacy on them. I shall only remind them, by way of a prudential hint, that the people at present resemble a collection of ferocious animals, kept tame and submissive by hunger and the whip; but should extreme rigour impel them to break loose, influenced by no principles of virtue, awed by no sanctions of duty, with minds uninformed, and passions uncontrouled, their ravages would know no bounds, and their keepers would fall the first victims to their licentious fury. That such an event is not so impossible, as it might have once been deemed, the recent example of France may well convince them. The populace of France, a few years ago, had no will but that of their lords, and little knowledge but to wait on their commands. The case is now reversed; and what scenes of horror and guilt have since ensued! Pre-eminence of power and station has only devoted the possessors to swifter destruction; and dreadful vengeance has been executed on tyranny and all its abettors.

Thus, Sir, I have exposed my sentiments on this subject freely and without reserve. That they will all meet with your concurrence and approbation, I am not so sanguine as to expect. Many of them, perhaps, are too visionary and impracticable to merit that distinction. I cannot, however,
repent

repent my having committed them to paper, as they will at least serve to shew what a wide difference exists between the actual and the eligible state of national education, and how many intermediate degrees of improvement might be adopted, without aiming at ideal perfection. The facts represented in the first part deserve, and I doubt not, will obtain your patriotic attention, and through your means the attention of the country at large. *In hoc negotio, nulla tua, nisi loquendi, una est, hoc est imperandi & mandandi.—Gratos et bonos viros tibi obligaris.*

With great respect, I am, Sir,

Your most humble servant,

N. K.

P. S. Talking over this subject with a friend, after the above was finished, he told me that several arguments on both sides of the question might be found in the ninth volume of the Bee. On having recourse to it, I was agreeably surprised to find the greater part of my remarks anticipated by a country schoolmaster, to whom the matter had appeared in much the same light as to myself; that being indeed the only view in which it can appear to those who are intimately conversant with its nature and effects. My surprise was not less great, though much less agreeable, on reading the paper in opposition to that measure, by one who styles himself a friend to learning, to industry, and arts. With what success it was originally circulated, or what demonstrative conviction the part that is omitted may contain, I cannot pretend to say: but, every shadow of argument advanced in the section inserted in the Bee, I trust will be found answered either directly or indirectly in the foregoing pages. I might thus be excused from taking any further notice of it at present, did not I think it a service due to justice and to virtue, to expose
in

in some degree, the sophistry, the contradictory reasoning, the illiberal principles, with which it abounds.

He supposes (p. 254) the salaries to be moderate, and such as, with the aid of teaching, may furnish a tolerable subsistence for a family. Here he ingeniously ‘puts a case,’ and reasons upon it; although (p. 262) he allows the *fact* to be, that the emoluments are ‘so extremely insignificant, as ‘to preclude all hope of procuring a comfortable subsistence ‘by the greatest exertions.’

He proposes (p. 253) to consider, ‘whether an augmentation (meaning undoubtedly *any* degree of augmentation that ‘may be judged proper) could promote the cause of literature, or the reverse.’ But, in the very next page, he *puts the case*, that the ‘salary should be *so much* augmented, as to ‘enable the schoolmaster to live better without teaching’ at all, than he does now with it.’

These two suppositions are no doubt very convenient for the conclusion, which he wishes to draw, namely, that the present salaries are necessarily best calculated to excite the industry of schoolmasters: but it certainly is not very decent to suppose, either that the legislature at present would adopt the very extreme of augmentation, or that the parliament of William and Mary appointed salaries then so enormous as to be sufficient even in these days of expence and extravagance.

But though he is here of opinion, that the increased salary would enable schoolmasters to live better without teaching, than they now do with it; yet (265) he maintains, that an augmentation, ‘instead of making them more wealthy, would ‘render them poorer, and more abject in circumstances, than ‘we can conceive.’

He objects (p. 255) to the augmentation, as tending to render ‘learning more expensive, and bring it less within ‘the reach of the poor inhabitants;’ and yet (p. 262) he proposes,

proposes, as a kind of augmentation, a very great increase on the school fees, for the express end of preventing the poor from attaining any acquirements, which might enable them to rise above their former rank, or, as he is pleased to express it, which 'tends to derange that due subordination which ought ever to prevail in civil society.'

He talks (pp. 257 & 260) of the 'industrious part of the community being loaded with a heavy burden,' and of 'a great body of the people being deprived of a considerable part of their property,' at the same time that, by his own plan, he wishes to lay all the additional load on the most industrious, and least substantial, members of society.

He seems (p. 256) much afraid of the introduction of teaching by deputies, for an allowance far short of the present salaries; while, according to his avowed principles, the work must be better done in proportion to the smallness of the wages, as the assistant 'will naturally be induced to exert himself as much as possible to obtain scholars, that his pressing wants may thus be supplied.'

The liberality of this gentleman's sentiments, and his high opinion of human nature, are conspicuous, when he says, that 'where the salaries are high, the professors are indolent,' and that 'the same care that is now bestowed for a shilling, could not then be commanded perhaps for a crown;' that 'the schools would become mere sinecures, to be given to the dependants of heritors or parsons;' or that they should be taught by proxy, while the master 'put into his own pocket all the superfluous wages; and that those persons would wink at the execution of the law, who should be entrusted with the enforcing of it.'

The means, too, by which he proposes to rouse the industry of the schoolmasters, and to preserve due subordination in civil society, are such as few patriots, or even politicians, would

would choose to avow. How much more amiable is the language of the last mentioned philosopher! ‘Exciting their industry by such cheerful hopes, and reasonable expectations, as belong to their humble situation; and not by the hard pressure of necessity, so often preposterously and inhumanly recommended as the most effectual spur of industry, so often unhappily applied as such.’

In addition to the above paper, it is thought advisable to reprint the following MEMORIAL, drawn up for the parochial schoolmasters in Scotland, anno 1782. It presents a melancholy picture of their situation; and it gives us, at the same time, a high idea of the dignity and importance of their office. It is proper to observe, that if their situation was then so uncomfortable, their distress must have been much heightened by the rise which has taken place, in the price of provisions, since that time.

THE education of youth, in every civilized state, has always been considered as an object of the first importance: because not only the future happiness, but the future existence of the state, in a great measure, depends upon it.

Where a right education is established and universally encouraged, early habits of virtue and good principles contribute more to the safety, peace, and happiness of society, than the most perfect civil and criminal laws can do, where education is neglected.

Every man who has accustomed himself to reflect, must be convinced, that the strength and prosperity of every state depend on the number of virtuous citizens; and that good morals are absolutely necessary to the increase of mankind: and, therefore, by a right institution of youth cannot be meant

meant what is commonly called a learned education, but chiefly that moral discipline which habituates the mind of the pupil in his early youth to discern the beauty of prudence, temperance, justice, fortitude, and charity; to avoid sloth as an enemy, to embrace industry as a friend; to love truth, to abhor falsehood, and universally to refuse the evil and choose the good.

The knowledge of the dead languages, and also of the principal living languages of Europe founded thereon, are both useful and ornamental branches of education for the principal citizens: but to spell, to read and to write our mother tongue with ease, and to understand the common and fundamental rules of arithmetic, is a very necessary addition to the above mentioned moral education of every citizen, male and female.

Without this early education, the understanding can never be opened to the arts of civil life; the vigour of mind that prompts to discovery, to commerce, and to every improvement, must fail; and society itself must languish and decay.

In every civilized country, and especially in our own, there are men whose minds are enlarged enough to see and wish to promote the happiness of their fellow citizens; and these men, who are the supports and ornaments of society, have only to turn their attention to this object for a few moments, and they will readily acknowledge, that the right education of youth is the first and great mean of turning the wilderness into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field into a garden, where innocence, industry, beneficence, and happiness prevail.

From the revival of letters in Europe to the present time, is but a short period in the history of mankind; and yet that period, short as it is, exhibits to the pleased reader

a greater portion of public and private happiness, than is to be found in the history of the whole preceding thousand years.

Scotland, or North Britain, struggles with many natural disadvantages; the climate is cold, the sky seldom serene, the weather variable, the soil unfruitful, the mountains bleak, barren, rocky, often covered with snows, and the appearance of the country in many places very forbidding to strangers; yet, by an early attention to the education of youth, to form good men and good citizens, she has uniformly maintained a high character among the nations, has always been deemed an excellent nurse of the human species, and has furnished, not soldiers only, but divines, generals, statesmen, and philosophers, to almost every nation of Europe.

Our ancestors, towards the end of the last century, turning their attention to this subject, beheld with pleasure the progress already made in useful knowledge and arts. They saw that the laws of nature and religion required of parents the virtuous education of their offspring; but they saw also that the increasing cares and avocations of civil life, together with the ignorance of many parents, rendered it necessary to call to their assistance a body of men appointed by the state to attend upon this one thing.

The schoolmasters, thus legally established, were supposed to be men who had turned their attention to the improvement of their minds, to the dignity, virtue, and happiness of human nature, to the distinctions between right and wrong in human conduct; and who were, besides, ‘apt to teach,’ patient, diligent, and faithful.

The encouragement appointed by the state for this respectable and useful body of men, though not great, was yet well suited to the times, the funds, and distinction of rank

at the period. The emoluments of their office placed them above day-labourers, and the poorer class of mechanics and farmers; nay, raised them to an equality with the more opulent farmers, respectable tradesmen and citizens; among whom their employment, their manners, and prospects in life, procured them a degree of respect very advantageous to their profession.

Ninety years have produced such a change, and so great improvements, in the agriculture, navigation, commerce, arts; and riches of this country, that 15*l.* sterling per annum, at the end of the last century, may be considered as a better income than 45*l.* sterling per annum at this present time.

Suppose, then, that in Scotland there are 900 parochial schoolmasters, which is very near the truth; 800 of these will be found struggling with indigence, inferior in point of income to 800 day-labourers in the best cultivated parts of this island, and receiving hardly half the emoluments of the menial servants of country gentlemen and wealthy citizens.

It seems a reproach to the enlightened minds and enlarged views of the present age, that nine hundred of their fellow citizens, selected to form the tempers and characters of a million, by conveying to them the first principles of literature, morality, and religion, should in the last century have been placed in a respectable station, possessing, not merely necessities, but comforts and conveniencies; and, by the progress of improvements, which they themselves have been the means of introducing, that so many of their successors, chosen, like them, out of the great body of the people, to form the minds and manners of more than a million and a half of their fellow subjects to the love of justice, temperance, integrity, industry, and every virtue, and likewise to instruct them in the rudiments of useful literature—should, in this

century, be reduced so low as to want the very necessaries of life.

The established clergy of Scotland, who possess a great share of polite and useful learning, and are as virtuous, faithful, and diligent teachers of Christianity, as are now to be found on earth, are all to a man convinced, that unless the minds of children are opened by a right education, *their* instructions from the pulpit will never be understood, and cannot profit the hearers: and therefore, they justly consider it as incumbent on them to superintend the schools; but from the various, laborious, and complicated duties of their office, they cannot engage in the arduous task of teaching children. Many of the clergy too, having spent the first years of manhood in teaching children the elements of literature and of the Christian religion, and struggled with all the difficulties above mentioned, will cheerfully give their best advice and assistance in providing a remedy for the growing evil.

The common people of North Britain have long possessed a degree of education, both in morals and in letters, unknown to any other subjects of the same rank in the British empire; and hence they have been much employed and much approved in the active departments of life throughout all Europe. The neighbouring nations are all ready to confess, that no servants are more faithful, sober, honest, and industrious; no sailors more hardy and resolute; no soldiers more patient of discipline, or less licentious; and no citizens, who know better both how to command, and how to obey. It is hoped, we shall long retain our national character; and that we may do this the more easily, we ought to give such encouragement to the teachers of youth, as will excite the most virtuous and best educated among the people to embrace this profession.

If no remedy be provided, the unavoidable consequence
must

must be, that few men in any degree qualified to teach will undertake that laborious employment; the citizens from age to age will become more ignorant and less virtuous; and the state will exhibit all the symptoms of a society verging towards destruction.

The memorialist, who is himself no parochial schoolmaster, and can have no expectation of any private emolument, nor any motive for writing this, but the good of his country, has the honour to be known to several noblemen and gentlemen of great property, as well as to many other public-spirited citizens, who have liberal ideas and love their country, and whose sentiments he knows to be the same with his own. Nor does he presume to dictate the provision that ought to be made by law for parochial schoolmasters; but only to suggest, that the present salaries and quarterly payments, received by the established teachers of youth, are totally inadequate to the education which public teachers ought to have, the rank in civil society which they ought to hold, and the pains and labours which they must endure.

If the attention of the public first, and then of the legislature, be turned to this subject, resources will not be wanting for putting the parochial schoolmasters of Scotland on a footing as respectable in regard to emoluments, as their labours are necessary and useful to the virtue and happiness both of individuals, and of the community at large.

APPENDIX TO THE STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF
THE PARISH OF KILMADOCK.

By Mr ALEXANDER M'GIBBON of Stirling.

*Observations on the advantages of Navigable Canals ;
with a scheme for navigating the rivers Forth and
Devon.*

THE power and wealth of a nation are said to depend on the labour of the people. We do not however find labour always productive of power or wealth ; one man toils incessantly from day to day, and at the year's end hath profited nothing ; while his neighbour, by the employment of a few hours in the day, or a few days in the year, supports himself in a superior manner, and lays by a considerable capital. The one is unproductive ; the other is productive labour. The former gains his recompence by bodily strength alone ; the latter unites bodily strength with art. Unproductive labour, or labour produced by bodily strength, is confined to a few obvious exertions, dependent wholly on the strength and agility of the individual, subject to sickness, langour, and decay, and exposed to a thousand accidents ; productive labour, or, in other words, the labour of art, is infinite in variety, of boundless power, incapable of change, and never wearied by exertion. Hence the riches of individuals ; hence the wealth of nations ; hence the power of states ; and hence the splendour of civilized society.

How

How valuable then is the study of the arts ! Indeed, without exerting our mental faculties in the discovery of what is useful, we must remain like the rude Indian, ignorant, wretched, and solitary. But the productions of art display the fields clothed with verdure, and swelling with grain ; the ocean is covered with ships ; splendid cities arise ; the country is adorned with all the accommodation which the husbandman can require ; and the solitary forest is filled with gladness.

It is evident from experience, that nothing contributes more to the improvement of the arts than the division of labour. But this discovery has unfolded an article of expence, namely, the carriage of commodities. If a man, by his own labour, produce the necessaries of life, he saves importations from his neighbours and exportations in return. In short, he lives within himself, and knows neither barter nor commerce. But the division of labour has shown that in this state he can command none of the luxuries of life, and is often exposed to a deficiency of its necessaries. When an individual, therefore, betakes himself to one occupation, and perhaps to one branch of that occupation, he sells the produce of his labour for a piece of money wherewith he buys all the other necessaries and luxuries of life from the different markets. Hence the necessity of the carriage of commodities.

The carriage of commodities being produced by the division of labour, must increase with it, and become an object of importance ; and, as it is plain that a considerable portion of the labour of individuals must be occupied in the carriage of commodities, whatever invention tends to diminish that labour, may be ranked among the useful arts.

In rude ages, rivers, lakes, and every large body of water, would be considered an obstruction to carriage ; and the
ocean,

ocean, it may be supposed, would form a complete barrier; but when navigation was discovered, what before was considered a disadvantage, would then appear the greatest benefit. As the discovery of a general principle usually unfolds a variety of subordinate causes and effects, so the value of rivers, lakes, and bodies of water, in lessening the expence of land carriage, suggested the idea of navigable canals in those inland districts where the navigable rivers did not extend; and the same principle would evince the advantages and disadvantages of each gradation, and shew the method of improving on the discoveries first made.

Navigable canals have many peculiar advantages. They are not subject to storms and tempests like the ocean, nor to the ebblings and flowings of the waters, which the mariner must await in creeks and arms of the sea, nor to the swelling and subsiding of rivers; and they can be constructed deep or shallow, wide or narrow, long or short, to answer any purpose. Their only enemy is frost; but this impediment is only for a short part of the season; and navigators have now discovered a method of cutting the ice, and letting the vessel pass. The general advantage of navigable canals being then so manifest, let us apply the case to Scotland, and in particular to the district under consideration.

Scotland is an agreeable as well as healthful country. Tho' in general the soil is barren, yet there are many fruitful valleys, and even the more rugged parts, in an agricultural view, are capable of great improvements, and may be converted to many useful purposes. But Scotland's greatest advantages are of a commercial nature; and, in this view, her agricultural disadvantages become of the very last importance. Her barren mountains produce a multitude of water streams for turning all kinds of machinery; her barren mountains furnish wood, stone, and other materials for buildings of every description;

scription; and these mountains divide the country into valleys or passes that can be easily fortified against an enemy; and thus, while the hills of Scotia are the parents of so many benefits, they overlook our foes with contempt.

The navigation of the Forth and Teith, then, must be of infinite benefit in a national view, as a part of that general plan which ought to be adopted over the whole kingdom; namely, of extending inland navigation. But let us consider the local situation of this district. The river Forth runs through a fine level country, of rich deep clay, about 27 miles long, and 3 broad. The Teith unites with Forth about 3 miles from the town of Down, to which a canal could be easily cut, or the river made navigable. From Down to Kilmahog, (a mile beyond Callander), a distance of 9 miles, the river has a considerable fall, which would increase the expence of navigation; but this part of the river being very eligible for water machinery, the advantage would soon repay the cost.

The beautiful countries along the banks of these two rivers form one grand basin, surrounded with stupendous rocks and mountains, comprehending the parishes of Stirling, Gargunnock, Kippen, Aberfoil, Port of Monteith, Callander, Kilmadock, and Lecropt; and also part of Dumblane, Logie, St. Ninians, Balfron, Buchanan, Drymen, and Killearn. The inhabitants of this large district of the kingdom, as well as the whole parish of Balquhidder, and a great way to the north of that, bring their coal and lime from Bannockburn and its neighbourhood, by land carriage. The rim of mountains surrounding this country stops all communication with the neighbouring districts, except at a few places. The line of roads, therefore, runs east and west; and all commodities imported or exported, must be conveyed in the same direc-

tion with the rivers Forth and Teith : and hence the advantage of making these rivers navigable.

The principal commodities required for agriculture and domestic consumpt in the districts described, are pit-coal and lime. The country to the east of Stirling produces coal and limestone in great abundance at many places ; but no coal has been discovered west from Bannockburn. Limestone is produced from the quarries of Aberfoil, about a mile west from the bridge of Gartmore, and from the quarries at Leny, a mile beyond Callander ; but the carriage of coal to burn the limestone is nearly equal to that of the lime shells when burnt, so that the limestone here without coal is of little benefit.

Many attempts have been made to get a canal along the Forth, or the river made navigable to Gartmore. It was once tried to bring the great canal that now unites the Forth and Clyde round by Stirling and Gartmore ; but that measure failing, the gentlemen interested seem to have lost spirit, which shews that they had not viewed the matter in its true light. In the year 1774, a very accurate survey was made of the river Forth, and of the smaller rivers Devon and Goodie that run into it ; and an estimate of making these rivers navigable was drawn up, and reported to a very respectable meeting of the noblemen and gentlemen of the counties of Stirling, Perth, and Clackmanan, on the 13th January 1774, and who voted several resolutions thereon ; a copy whereof is annexed. The matter seems however to have dropt after this, which proves evidently how superficially the plan had been viewed by the people in general. Some men cannot submit to the fatigue of enquiry and calculation ; the time of others is occupied by pursuits of a different nature ; and some doubt every thing that bears the character of novelty, and on such topics will discredit even their own calculations.

lations. It is certainly highly prudent to weigh well a subject of such importance, which cannot be comprehended at once, which embraces a great variety of circumstances, and for the most part points to futurity for the return of the present outlay.

It is already mentioned, that the two great commodities wanted are coal and lime. The distance from Gartmore to Stirling by the high road is 20 miles; and from Stirling to the coal and lime works usually frequented, the average distance may be reckoned 2 miles; in all 22 miles to the people of Gartmore. The distance from Kilmahog to Stirling is 17 miles, besides the above 2 miles, making the land carriage 19 miles to the people of Kilmahog. To the inhabitants of Aberfoil, the upper parts of Callander, and of the parish of Balquhiddy, the distance to coal is upwards of 30 miles; yet these people come so far as Bannockburn for fuel; and even the people of Killin parish, and other parts of the Highlands, still more remote, travel the same road for coals to their lairds, while they themselves have to toil in casting and preparing peats; and after all their labour, are literally no better served than the rude natives of North America.

Inland navigation would at once cure the evil. The following state will shew the extent of the arable land in the parishes described requiring lime, and the number of families requiring coal.

X x 2

State

State of the arable acres, and number of families, in the countries adjoining the rivers Forth and Teith, to the west of Bannockburn; extracted from the accounts of the different parishes.

Parishes.	Souls.	Fami. lies.	Arable acres.	Pasture, &c	Observations.
Part of St. Ninians, } Stirling, }	6699	1688	576	little.	well cultivated.
Gargunnoch, - -	830	178	8520	considerable.	improvable.
Kippen, - - -	1777	399	6200	extensive.	greatly improv.
Balfron, - - -	1381	300	7680	ditto.	ditto.
Killearn, - - -	973	206	9600	ditto.	ditto.
Drymen, - - -	1607	400	15000	ditto.	ditto.
Buchanan, - - -	1111	270	4000	very extensive.	ditto.
Aberfoil, - - -	1765	430	4000	ditto.	ditto.
Port, - - -	1765	430	4000	extensive.	ditto.
Lecropt, - - -	420	80	2000	little.	well cultivated.
Kincardine, - -	2068	500	4000	2000	ditto.
Kilmadock, - -	3400	700	13653	27307	greatly improv.
Callander, - - -	2100	500	4000	very extensive.	ditto.
Balquidder, - -	1300	300	4000	ditto.	ditto.
Total,	26496	6381	92413		

By this table, it appears that the tract of country under consideration contains 6381 families, and 92413 arable acres. As part of the inhabitants of Killearn, Balfron, Drymen, and Buchanan, may be supplied with coal from Campsie and Kilpatrick, (though the carriage from these places be upwards of 10 miles), we shall discount, off the extent of these parishes, 453 families, and 16140 acres; the remainder is 5928 families, and 76273 acres; and that we may not stretch the calculation too far, we will allow a tenth part of the arable land for roads, houses, and water tracts, being 7627 acres, which leaves 68646 acres arable; one half whereof may be reckoned carse clay, and strong soil, requiring 6 chalders or $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons lime shells per acre, every seventh year, or a sixth part to be limed at this rate annually. The other half being light dry field,

field, will only require to be limed at the half of the above rate, being 3 chalders, or $2\frac{1}{4}$ tons lime shells to each acre.

The navigation of the Forth could not be carried farther than Gartmore, nor of the Teith farther than Kilmahog, so we shall reckon the land carriage along the river to these points to be 9 miles, as a medium for the whole extent; for which space, the land carriage of a ton of lime, shells, or coals, will cost at least 10s.

It is impossible to ascertain exactly the quantity of coal the above families will consume. But we shall suppose an ordinary farmer's consumpt to be a standard for the whole. Now, an ordinary farmer, if he burn nothing else than coal, cannot be allowed less than 20 carts annually; of which, the carriage by land, including the prime cost on the hill, will be 9s. per cart, in all 9l. sterling annually.

It may be said that a great number of the families will manufacture peats, and thus save the expence of coal. Now let us submit this alternative to the test of calculation. The collector of these reports was at the pains to question a farmer in the parish of Kilmadock on this subject. He kept one fire in his kitchen through the whole year, and another fire for about six months of the year; and these fires were supplied by peats from his own moss, and coals from Bannockburn or Auchinbowie. He consumed annually 8 carts of coals, and employed 2 men and 4 women for a month, annually, in manufacturing peats, and 4 horses and carts for 2 weeks.

His expence stands as under;

8 carts of coals, at 9s.	-	L. 3	12	0
2 men and 4 women, 4 weeks casting, spreading, drying, leading, and stacking peats; the men 1s. 6d. and the women 1s. each per day,	-	8	8	0
			4	horses

Brought forward,	12	0	•
4 horses and carts at do. 2 weeks, at 2s.			
per day, - - - - -	2	8	0
	<hr/>		
	L. 14	8	0

Besides wear and tear of spades and wheel-barrows.

So, by manufacturing peats, instead of buying coals, the farmer is out of pocket 5l. 8s. annually. It is worth remark, too, that peats can only be manufactured in the fine months of May or June, when the time of the farmer would be much better employed in improving his land, repairing dykes, clearing ditches, &c.

Comparative state of land and water carriage.

Land Carriage.

68646 acres	{	1-12th=5720 at $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons lime?	}	L.12870	0	0
		shells, at 10s.				
		1-12th=5720 at $2\frac{1}{4}$ do.do. at 10s.		6435	0	0
				<hr/>		
5928 families=71136 tons coals, 10s.		-		35563	0	0
N. B. The population of Stirling being too great				}	2364	0
a proportion for the district in general, de-						
duct 394 families=4728 tons						
		-		<hr/>		
					33199	0
					<hr/>	
					L. 52504	0

Total land carriage, L. 52504 0 0

Water carriage for 9 miles of the great canal.

25740 tons lime shells, at 1d. per ton per mile,	965	5	0
Shore dues, 2d. per ton, - - - - -	214	10	0
	<hr/>		
		1179	15
66408 tons coals at do. - - - - -	2490	6	0
Shore dues, 2d. per ton, - - - - -	553	8	0
	<hr/>		
		3043	14
		<hr/>	
		4223	9

Water carriage for 9 miles of the Forth tideway.

25740 tons lime shells at $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ton per mile, }	482	12	6
including lading, anchorage and shore dues, }			
66408 tons coals, at do. - - - - -	1245	3	0
	<hr/>		
		1727	15
		<hr/>	
Saved annually by the canal, - - - - -		48280	11
Saved annually by the Forth tideway, - - - - -		50776	4

N. B.

N. B. The distance by water from Lord Elgin's lime kilns to the shore of Stirling, is 46 miles. A small boat carrying 104 carts or 30 tons of lime shells, is freighted at $\text{£}1. 19\text{s.}$ besides about 4s. for lading anchorage and shore dues, which does not come to $\frac{1}{16}$ ths of a penny per ton per mile. But as the freight for a short distance would be a higher rate, we have allowed $\frac{1}{2}\text{d.}$ to cover all circumstances. The 30 tons of lime shells though only $\text{£}1. 3\text{s.}$ by water, would be at least 76l. sterling of carriage by land.

From this comparative view of land and water carriage, the difference appears almost incredible; yet the calculations are founded on fact and experience, and it is believed below the standard. In whatever view we take the subject, there cannot be the least argument for delaying the scheme of opening the navigation of the rivers in question a single moment. The annual saving would maintain 4525 inhabitants, at the rate of 10l. each person, young and old.

If an accurate survey of the districts in question were made, the exact quantity of coal and lime required could be known, and at same time the expence of land carriage of these two commodities from all the different places where they are presently found; and at same time the exact cost of opening water communication to those different places could be known, and the gentlemen interested would be enabled to judge with accuracy the objects of improvement.

Limestone is procured in the greatest abundance at Lord Elgin's craigs, on the coast of Fife. It is also produced at Sauchie and Murrayshall, in the parish of St. Ninian's, and at Aberfoil and Leny.

Coal is produced on the banks of the river Devon, between Cobble-Crook and Rackmill, and at Bannockburn and Auchinbowie; and the country in general on the south side of the Forth, from Stirling to Carron, seems to abound with
pit

pit-coal, which is wrought and produced at many places in great abundance: but no coal has ever been discovered on the banks of the Forth or Teith beyond Stirling.

From the situation of the various places where coal and lime are produced, communication by water can be very easily opened, and in many places at little or no expence: to the coal of Devon, by the tide-way of the Forth and the river Devon; to the lime craigs of Lord Elgin, by the tide-way and Frith of Forth; to the various coal works between Stirling and Carron, by navigable canals from the river Forth; and to the lime craigs of Aberfoil and Leny, by the navigation of the rivers Forth and Teith.

This unfolds a very wide field for enquiry; and to ascertain the cheapest and most profitable plan of improvement would be very difficult, though a little time and expence would infallibly accomplish the object. In any view, the advantage of water communication would be great; and the only point of enquiry is, which of the whole plans that can be formed would be the most valuable.

In the annexed copy of the procedure in 1774, relative to the navigation of the Forth, Devon, and Goodie, a very accurate description of these rivers is given. For making the Forth navigable above the tide-way, it appears 5,833l. sterl. would have been requisite at that time, beside the value of 19 acres of land, occupied by cuts, &c. which may be valued at 30l. per acre, as the half of it would not be needed in perpetuity: so, had the plan succeeded in 1774, the whole of the Forth navigation to Gartmore would only have cost 6,403l. sterling. The navigation of the Devon, including several cuts, would have cost

	-	L. 7,207	13	6
Beside 59 acres land,	-	1,770	0	0
In whole,	-	L. 8,977	13	6

From

From these estimates it appears, the cost of the Devon navigation was the chief article, and very likely struck a fatal blow against the measure. In attempting any new plan of improvement, the very cheapest and simplest mode ought to be first adopted, leaving the more complex and expensive to experience. The Devon navigation seems to have been a favourite object in 1774; and yet the only benefit to be derived is the carriage of coal, and that, too, only with the contracted view of lowering the price of coal at other places. There seems no solid reason for incurring so much expence to obtain an object of such a trifling nature.

We must keep in view the two grand commodities required to the countries along the Forth and Teith, viz. coal and lime: and surely, if these articles can be procured nearer than Rackmill or Cobble-Crook, or the lime craigs of Lord Elgin, we should embrace the cheapest.

We then find that coal can be procured at Bannockburn and Auchinbowie, and lime at Sauchie and Murrayshall. A small canal could be very easily cut from the Forth at Baad, near Craigforth, to within half a mile of the lime works at Murrayshall, and two miles of the coal works of Bannockburn, to which last works the canal could be extended by one or two locks. The greatest stretch of this canal would not exceed three miles: and it is to be remembered, that the Forth *above* the Baad is naturally navigable; and as the works at Craigforth, mentioned in the estimate of 1774, lie *below* the Baad, and would have cost 4033l. this sum would nearly complete the proposed canal from Baad to Bannockburn. From the estimates in 1774, it appears, that no more than 2370l. would be necessary for making the Forth navigable from Baad to Gartmore.

Putting, then, the Devon navigation out of the question; the present object is, whether it would be cheapest to bring

coal and lime by the tide-way of the Forth on the plan of 1774, or from Bannockburn and Murrayshall by a new canal to the Forth at Baad. It is plain that the canal to Bannockburn would be more expensive than the works at Craighforth: but, in place of 3 miles of water carriage from Baad to Bannockburn, you would have at least 49 miles of water carriage from Baad to Lord Elgin's lime kilns, and near 30 miles of water carriage to the coalworks on the Devon, beyond Rackmill.

The navigation of the Teith would be much more expensive than the Forth, because the river has a greater fall. From the tide-way of the Forth, or from the junction of the two rivers, to Down, a space of 3 miles, one lock might be sufficient, as the river has no considerable fall along this stretch. From the estimates in 1774 of the Devon navigation, we think the canal to Down would not have cost much more than 4000*l.* sterling at that period. Between Down and Callander, a stretch of 8 miles, would be very difficult and expensive, the banks of the river being rocky in many places. The fall of the river is, however, pretty gradual; and it is thought that, by clearing the bed, it might be rendered fit for small drag-boats. The only impediment to this plan is the rugged banks, which the stream, in time of floods, has rendered inaccessible in many places; and it would require very strong embankments to defend a towing path.

These difficulties, though great, should not however prevent an accurate survey and calculation. It is proper to keep in view the value of this river: such a fine body of water, capable of moving the largest machinery for the space of 12 miles, is an object not to be met with everywhere. It is in the centre of the kingdom, and immediate neighbourhood of a very rich country, and its banks furnish stone for all kinds of buildings. From Callander to Lochlubnaig, the Teith becomes

becomes still more valuable for machinery ; having very great falls at every short distance, and an excellent road, already formed, along its banks to the Highlands : and were water carriage opened so far as Callander, the additional land carriage to the public works erected beyond that village would be trifling.

In short, the river Teith, in the view of manufactures, is excelled by very few in Scotland : and yet it is almost totally neglected, chiefly for the want of coal and lime ; and it must continue so while the high price of the carriage of these articles lasts.

To the inhabitants of the districts under consideration, navigable canals are objects of very great importance ; and if they have any love for the prosperity of these interesting districts, the navigation of the Forth and Teith ought to be their first step.

If the lessening of land carriage occupied so much of the attention of the public in 1774, it ought much more so the attention of the people of the present time. The extraordinary improvements in agriculture, and the increase of Scotch manufactures since 1774, must now render land carriage an important article. The astonishing rise of land rents, the improvement of the highways, the elegance of buildings, and the general appearance of the country, are sufficient proof of our increased prosperity and wealth. But this alteration must have naturally increased the expence of land carriage ; and were navigation extended, the effect would be at once obvious.

A manufacturer will never think of erecting extensive works in a district where land carriage is so expensive and coals so scarce. Betwixt Callander and Lochlubnaig, mills could be erected and supplied with water the whole year round, that might employ upwards of 20,000 workmen,

which might be about 5000 families. Allowing each family 20 carts of coals, or 60,000 tons, which would cost, for 24 miles of land carriage, 25s. at least each ton, the whole expences would amount to 75,000*l.* sterling annually. The same quantity by the Great Canal would only cost 6,500*l.* and by the tide-way of the Forth only 3,000*l.* In the former way the manufacturer saves 68,500*l.* and in the latter way 72,000*l.* No wonder, then, that the fine river Teith is neglected, that its banks are solitary, and the surrounding villages mean and contemptible.

If such a saving would arise on the article coal; how much would be the profit on all the other commodities that such works would require. It commonly happens, that where we meet with rapid rivers and water-falls, the country is poor, and produces very little of the necessaries of life. It is so with the banks of the Teith above Callander; the country is rugged and barren; and were any works to be erected there, the importations for the subsistence of the workmen would be very great, and the land carriage would render living too expensive. In short, were any to attempt manufactories on this river, during existing circumstances, he must want workmen; as no person would pay the high price of provisions which the inland situation of the district would create, while he could get work, and be served better, at other places.

But, were the river Teith made navigable, this part of the country would very soon become flourishing and wealthy. It would have immediate communication with the rich country along the Forth, and with the London market; and the low price of carriage would render every undertaking easy and inviting. The multitude of water streams produced by this rugged district of the country, though hitherto neglected, may soon be highly esteemed and properly attended to. Such
streams

streams, when contrasted with the parched deserts of other climes, may be esteemed one of heaven's greatest blessings; and, to a commercial people, they are in fact more valuable than the gold of Mexico and Peru.

Let the genius of Caledonia, then, be roused by her natural advantages; let her warlike sons exert their ingenuity in useful discoveries; and let the country, that bravely withstood the Roman eagle, be adorned and enriched by useful arts, and all the prodigies of which science is productive.



*An account of the scheme for NAVIGATING the rivers
Forth and Devon.*



THE river Forth, in its course from Gartmore to Alloa, a distance of 27 miles, measured in a straight line, runs wholly in a level plain of a deep clay soil. This extent of the river is naturally divided into two districts: the upper Forth, or the fresh-water river, which is higher than the rise of spring-tides; and the lower Forth, or the tideway.

The part of the upper Forth, which may most easily be made navigable, commences near Gartmore; and is separated from the lower Forth by a fall over a rock at Craigforth dam, where it ends, and the tide-way commences. It measures about twenty 20 miles in a straight line, and 33 by windings of its channel, which is extremely crooked.

The upper Forth has a narrow channel, with steep sloping banks. The surface of the water is generally 20 feet under the surface of the ground, and the river is mostly deep; there being great districts of it that have always 8 or 10 feet water: but these are separated by shallows, some of which have not more than 2 feet water in the summer time.

The

The river runs exceedingly gently ; and, except at three places, it has no very sensible declivity of surface. The lowermost of these is the fall over the rock at Craigforth dam ; where the surface of the river is 8 feet above the neap tides, and 4 feet and a half above spring-tides high water.

The second stream is at the ford of Frew, which, measuring by the windings of the river, is 18 miles distant from Craigforth dam. The declivity of the surface is about 3 feet, and the length of the stream about 200 yards. The ford appears to be wholly composed of gravel, brought thither principally by the burn of Bolquhan, which enters there, and is the only stream that brings much gravel to Forth.

The third stream is at Cardross. It is about 7 miles above the Frew ; and is about a mile in length, running partly upon a rock, and partly upon a gravel bottom. The perpendicular fall here is about 8 feet and a half when the river is low, and does not exceed 6 feet when there is any fresh.

From Cardross, to a stream below the bridge of Gartmore, I know of no impediment to the navigation, except some few parts of the river that is rather shallow. The stream below the bridge is about a mile long ; and has a declivity of surface of 5 feet in that space, above which there is half a mile of deep and dead water.

The river Goodie enters the Forth about 3 miles below the Frew. It rises from the loch of Monteith, about a mile N. W. from Cardross, and runs nearly parallel to Forth. It is a small river, but, running through soft ground, has made its channel very deep. It is naturally navigable for the space of 4 miles from the Forth, to a mill about a quarter of a mile from Thornhill, where there is a fall of a few feet from that mill upwards to the mill of Cardross. It is also navigable for a cut of nearly 4 miles in length, made for the purpose
of

of drainage. So that the only impediment to navigation, is the mill dam below Thornhill, and a small natural fall in the river, at that place where it is thought that the bottom is soft: and the rise could easily be lowered, and the cut above it deepened, by sluices.

The tideway of the Forth commences at Craigforth dam, which is 26 miles distant from Alloa by the river, and 7 miles in a straight line.

It is excessively crooked; and its greatest bendings lie near Stirling, where its channel is narrow, when compared with that which it occupies at Alloa. It has several fords in it above Manor, which do not permit vessels drawing 5 feet water to pass over them in neap tides. The tides are three hours later at Craigforth dam than at Alloa; and the port at Manor is the highest accessible at all tides for vessels drawing 9 feet water. That port lies above two great turns of the river; and vessels may be often hindered from coming to it by contrary winds and freshes. The port of Cambus lies $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles farther down, and below the most considerable of these turns; and the Forth is wider and deeper there. It lies in the mouth of the river Devon; is $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Alloa; and has in the harbour 9 feet water in low neap tides, and 13 feet and a half in Spring tides. The bottom at the quay is composed of loose stones, and may be easily made a foot or two deeper, as it rises more than that height above the low waters in the Forth opposite to it. The bottom of Devon, above the quay of Cambus, is composed of shelving rocks, not difficult to quarry; the stones of which may be useful for building such works as are wanted there.

The river Devon is smaller than the upper Forth, and larger than the Goodie. It comes from the east, and runs for many miles through a fine valley, where it has a crooked channel; and the surface of the water is not far below that
of

of its banks; part of it from Menftry dam to Sauchie, a space of three miles by the river, is dead water, except at two places, of no great extent, the Westhaugh and Coble Crook fords, which together have a fall of about 3 feet that may be removed, and this part of the river made the channel of navigation.

Menftry dam is fituated a mile and three quarters above the quay of Cambus, and about the same distance from the port of Manor. The surface of the water is $17\frac{1}{2}$ feet, above neap tides, and 14 feet above spring tides, high water. The channel of the Devon from this dam to Cambus is perplexed with dams and shallow places where the bottom is rock.

Above Sauchie, the channel of Devon is unfit for navigation, being obstructed by gravel fords brought in by the rivers, but a canal can be cut on the south side of it from Sauchie to the Rack-mill, a space of four miles. Twenty-three feet of lockage are required to raise this stretch of the canal to the level of the surface of the Devon near the Rack-mill, but at least three feet more will be necessary to carry it over the intermediate grounds.

The commodities principally wanted in the extensive countries upon the upper Forth, are lime and pit-coal. The consumption of both these articles is very great, and would be much greater were the expence of carriage lower. They could most readily be supplied with the coal from the extensive seams of that mineral which ly upon the Devon, from the Coble Crook to the Rack-mill; many of which are level-free, but at present they can have no communication with these coalleries but by land carriage, and must supply themselves at a higher rate either at Bannockburn or at Stirling shore, to the last of which, coals are brought by the tideway from Alloa, and the coalleries situated farther down the Forth, where they must be wrought at the export prices.

Lime

Lime is supplied from Lord Elgin's lime works upon the Forth, and from the Aberfoil quarries, about a mile west from the bridge of Gartmore. In the first place, it is brought to Stirling by water carriage, and transported by land to the countries that want it. The Aberfoil lime is carried only by land; and as the coals with which it is burnt are also brought by a long land carriage, it is sold at a high price, but is of a superior quality to the other.

Were the upper Forth and Devon made navigable, and a communication made between them by a canal, or by the tide-way, those countries would be mutually benefited; the one by the sale of their coals, the other by obtaining them at a lower rate than they do at present. Both the countries upon the upper Forth and upon the Devon could be supplied with lime from the tide-way; and the people upon the Forth would have their choice of taking either that or the Aberfoil lime, which could be afforded cheaper were the prices of coals lower.

In my report to the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Police in December 1773, I have proposed several plans of navigation and junction of these two rivers. That report has been laid before the public, and has been the subject of two meetings of the noblemen and gentlemen interested. At the last of these, upon the 2d instant, certain parts of the plan were adopted, and some additions made, of which I am now to give an account.

The calculations of the expence of navigating the upper Forth were made upon the supposition, that the district between it and Craigferth dam is deep water; I am now informed that there are several fords in that district and in the tide-way betwixt Kildean and the dam. If this be the case, the expence of removing these fords will be found to be considerable. It may be eligible to lock up at Kildean, and to

cut a canal one mile in length from thence to the river above Craigannet, at a place called the Baad. This cut will shorten the navigation two miles and a half, and will avoid the most perplexed parts of the river; but will be expensive, as the cutting must be deep, and the ground is valuable. I have stated the expence of this work in the estimates preferable to the other. It being proper, until accurate surveys are made, to reckon upon the greatest expence.

If this cut be made, a dam must be erected at Craigannet, near the upper end of Craigforth rock, where the river has a rocky bottom, and stones lye at hand. The height of the dam may be four feet, which will raise the surface of the upper Forth to twelve feet above neap tides high water, will supersede all dredging below the Frew ford, and probably will give a sufficiency of water in the Goodie to near the Thornhill mill.

Another dam of five feet fall may be erected at the Frew, which, without dredging, will navigate the river to Cardrofs, and will give dead water near to the top of the ford there.

A third lock and dam of five feet fall, erected at Cardrofs, will give a sufficiency of water near to the bridge of Gartmore; and whenever there is a fresh in the river, boats will easily pass the stream into the dead water above the bridge.

If the cut from Kildean to Baad is laid aside, Craigforth dam must be made good, and a lock erected there of eight feet fall. The lock formerly proposed at the Frew may be placed below the mouth of the Goodie, where it will save almost all the dredging in the Forth, and will raise a sufficiency of water in the Goodie. The lock at Cardrofs must be placed below the ford, and must be of eight feet fall at least.

The Forth and Goodie being navigated by one or other of these methods, the next point would be to connect it with the Devon. The best means of effecting this, I have shewn

in

in my report on that subject, to be by a canal through the carses from Menstry dam, and upon its level to Craigforth dam, where it must lock down nine feet six inches to communicate with the upper Forth; but whereas this canal was principally intended to facilitate the carriage of coals, and it has been thought probable that quantities of that commodity would be immediately carried upon it as would correspond to the expence. It is now proposed to execute only that part of it which reaches from Menstry dam to Manor, with the branch to Cambus; to deepen both these ports, and to make proper conveniencies to tranship the coals; until experience shall shew which is the best way of completing the communication, by locking down to the tideway, or by the canal to Craigforth dam.

The canal from Menstry dam to Manor being very little more than the canal from the same place to the Cambus, will save three miles sailing on the tideway to the boats of the upper Forth and Stirling shore. The Cambus branch is necessary, because by opening an export sale to Devon coallieries, they will be enabled to send a greater quantity of tonnage upon the upper parts of the river, and thereby raise more tolls.

It is proposed, to use the channel of the Devon, from Menstry dam to Sauchie; to lock up these twenty-six feet by four locks; and to proceed to Meloch foot, or, if need be, to the Rack mill, by the canal. At least, two of the four locks at Sauchie can be cut out of a very good freestone rock, which will greatly lessen the expence, and is accordingly allowed for in the estimates.

The dimensions of the canal are proposed to be sixteen feet wide at bottom, with four feet water. The locks thirteen feet and a half wide, seventy-two feet long, and of the fall specified. The navigation on the Forth may be carried

on in boats thirteen feet wide, from 56 to 60 long, and drawing $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet water. Such boats, I am informed, navigate the inland rivers in England, and go on the tideway of the Humber to Hull. Upon the canals and Devon, the boats will draw much easier if they are narrow. But, I propose, in the view of a junction being effected between the Forth and Devon by locks, that all the bridges and locks upon the Devon canals shall be made of the same size with those upon the Forth. So that the boats constructed for the latter may occasionally ply upon the canals.

The late season of the year absolutely prevents the making minute or accurate surveys at present. I have therefore made some allowance on that account; and I flatter myself that the estimates are near the truth.

The account I have given of the Goodie I have from Mr Morrison, who is well acquainted with it. I am also beholden to him for the levels and description of the Devon, and tract above Sauchie, which he surveyed in the year 1765. All the other particulars I have examined myself, except the soundings of the tideway of the Forth, which I relate upon information.

I have fixed no price to the land, because the gentlemen interested are better judges of that article than I am.

As the map of upper Forth is not yet finished, the distances of places I have given there are to be considered only as estimated principally from a plan made of it in the year 1767, which I have not seen since. I therefore recommend to those who want an exact knowledge of these distances, to measure them upon Mr Morrison's map of that river, which he is now making out, and will soon publish.

EDINBURGH,
18. Jan. 1774.

(Signed) JAMES WATT.

Particular

Particular Estimates of the Navigations upon the Rivers Forth, Devon, and Goodie.

The Navigation upon the upper Forth.

Cutting a canal from Kildean to the Baad, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles or 1980 yards long, 12 feet deep, and 16 feet wide at bottom, with flopes as 2 to 1, containing 53 cub. yards in the running yard; and in all 104, 490 cub. yards, at 4d. per yard	L. 1749 0 0
Locking up 12 feet by 2 locks at Kildean	1200 0 0
A bridge over the cut	50 0 0
A pair of slope-gates at the upper lock	50 0 0
A dam at Craigannet, with sluices	100 0 0
	3149 0 0
Incidents, 10 per cent.	314 0 0

L. 3463 0 0

Land cut and covered, 60 yards wide, nearly 19 Scotch acres.

The land covered and not needed in perpetuity is the half of the above, or 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres, which may be restored after the earth is cleared off.

Works from Craigferth to Cardrofs.

A lock and dam at Frew, five feet fall	L. 700 0 0
A lock and dam at Cardrofs, five feet fall	700 0 0
Dam in the glen of Boquhan, to prevent the formation of the Frew ford	100 0 0
Thirty-three miles towing path, 20l. each	660 0 0
	2160 0 0
Ten per cent.	216 0 0

L. 2376 0 0

Estimate

Estimate for making the Devon navigable from the Rack mill to Sauchie by a canal, estimated from Mr Morrison's account.

Cutting a canal from the Rack mill to Meloch foot, 1 mile; or 1760 yards long, $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet mean depth, 16 feet wide at bottom, with slopes as 1 to 3, containing $15\frac{5}{16}$ cube yards in the running yard; and in all 27,280 cube yards, at 3d. each	}	L. 341	0	0
One mile towing path and drains				
One tunnel for the land water	-	-	30	0
Passing places	-	-	12	10
	-	-	20	0
			403	10
Ten per cent.	-	-	40	7
			L. 443	17
Land for the cut 9 acres				

Cutting a canal from Meloch foot to Sauchie, of the above dimensions, 3 miles, or 5280 yards long, containing in all 81,840 cube yards, at 3d. each	}	L. 1023	0	0
Extra cutting at Tillicoultry bridge				
Three miles towing path at 30l.	-	-	100	0
Seven small tunnels	-	-	90	0
Twenty-six feet of lockage, mostly cut out of a good freestone rock	-	-	87	10
Passing places	-	-	1800	0
Four road bridges at 50l. each	-	-	60	0
A sluice for taking in water	-	-	200	0
			20	0
			3380	10
Ten per cent.	-	-	338	0
			L. 3718	10
Ground for the canal, 27 acres,				

Estimate

Estimate of making the Devon navigable from Sauchie to Menstry dam, with canals to Cambus and Manor.

Cleaning the fords in the Devon	-	L. 300	0	0
Repairing Menstry dam	-	150	0	0
Two pair slope gates	-	100	0	0
Canal from Menstry dam to Tullibody bridge		289	11	6
Canal from Tullibody bridge to Manor	-	396	18	0
Towing paths, and fencing the lands, 100l. per mile		190	0	0
Enlarging and deepening the Manor pow		200	0	0
Three bridges, at 60l. each	-	180	0	0
Aqueduct over Foulbridge burn	-	30	0	0
Three small tunnels, 10l. each	-	30	0	0
Passing places	-	40	0	0
Canal from Tullibody bridge to Cambus, 1496 } yards long, containing 24,334 cubic yards, } at 3d. - - - - - }		302	18	0
Banking up at the end of it, 100 yards long, } containing 3,164 cubic yards, at 6d. }		79	0	0
Repairing and enlarging Cambus quay	-	300	0	0
One highway bridge	-	60	0	0
Passing places, towing places, and fencing		120	0	0
		L. 2,768	7	6
Ten per cent.	-	272	17	0
		L. 3,041	4	6

The General Estimate.

The works at Craigforth	-	L. 3,463	0	0
The works from Craigforth to Cardrofs		2,370	0	0
The Rackmill canal	-	443	17	0
The canal from Meloch to Sauchie	-	3,718	10	0
The Menstry, Cambus, and Manor canals		3,041	4	6
Sum total of the works,		L. 13,236	11	6

Land

Land at Craigforth cut	-	-	19 acres,
Do. for the Rackmill canal	-	-	9 do.
Do. for the Meloch and Sauchie do.	-	-	27 do.
Do. for the Menstry, Cambus, and Manor do.	-	-	23 do.

Edinburgh, 13th January, 1774.

At a general meeting of the noblemen and gentlemen of the counties of Stirling, Perth, and Clackmanan, held, in the Exchange Coffee-House, upon Wednesday the 12th day of January 1774 years, in consequence of an advertisement published in the Edinburgh newspapers on the 15th December last.

Sederunt.

Lord Kames.

Lord Alva.

Mr Alexander Abercrombie, Sheriff of Clackmanan and Stirling.

Mr Erskine of Grange.

Mr Ferrier, for the Duke of Argyle.

Mr Jamieson, for the town of Stirling.

Mr Graham, younger of Meiklewood,

Mr Home of Blairdrummond.

Mr Callander of Craigforth.

Lord KAMES in the chair.

THE meeting having received the report made by Mr Callander of Craigforth, in consequence of several conferences he had held with the Right Hon. Lord Cathcart, and with Messrs Watt and Morrison, engineers and surveyors, relative to the plans and estimates, given in formerly by these gentlemen,

men, for navigating the rivers Forth, Devon, and Goodie, which are printed, and now in the hands of the public; and to which report are added several proposals tending to lessen greatly the expence of the navigation, and also the putting sooner into possession of the advantage that is hoped to result from the execution of these works:—

Resolved,

I. That the rendering of the rivers Forth, Devon and Goodie navigable, is a measure very expedient for the advancement of trade in general, as well as for the improvement of the countries adjacent to the said rivers in particular.

Resolved,

II. That it is the opinion of the meeting, that the changes proposed to be made upon the former printed plans and estimates, will greatly lessen the expence and abridge the time necessary for compleating the intended navigation.

Resolved,

III. That they have now before them sufficient evidence of the probability of the said measure to be the ground of an application to Parliament, to obtain an act for the above purpose as soon as may be.

Resolved,

IV. That it has been represented to the meeting, that it is very difficult to obtain an act of Parliament unless two thirds of the necessary expence are provided for:—That it be recommended from the chair to the gentlemen composing the meeting, to write to their friends and acquaintances, who, either by the situation of their several estates, or from other causes, are materially interested in the success of this navigation, to know from them what sums they are willing to subscribe, in order to carry those abridged plans into execution, and facilitate the passing of the intended bill into a law.

Resolved,

V. That Mr Watt and Mr Morrifon be desired forthwith to draw out, and cause to be printed, the heads of, and reasons for, the abridged plan; with estimates of the particular expence attending the several works necessary for putting the country in immediate possession of a navigable communication, upon the Rack mill, upon the river Devon, to the ports of Cambus and Manor, upon the tideway of the Forth, and from the tideway to Gartmore, upon the upper Forth, and to the mill of Cardrofs, upon the river Goodie.

Resolved,

VI. That it be recommended to Mr Callander, as soon as this paper is printed, to circulate them among the noblemen and gentlemen concerned in the success of this navigation; and that he do write to them, at the same time, to know their opinion of the utility of the proposed measures, and how far they will give their assistance towards carrying them into execution.

Resolved,

VII. That, upon allowance obtained from the Honourable Trustees for Manufactures, another meeting be held, in the hall of this office, on Monday the 31st January, 1774; in order to receive the several opinions of the gentlemen interested, and to open a subscription for the purpose above mentioned. And they direct that these resolutions shall be printed and circulated, together with the report and estimates.

(Signed) HENRY HOME.

S T A.

STATISTICAL ACCOUNT
OF THE
PARISH OF KILRONAN,
IN IRELAND,
AND OF THE NEIGHBOURING DISTRICT.

Introduction.

I request that the reader would have the goodness to excuse my inserting the following account of a parish in Ireland; but I am led to do it, out of respect to the memory of a very public-spirited individual, the late Right Hon. William Burton Conyngham, who transmitted it to me, as the only account worth preserving, received by the Dublin Society, when they circulated their queries, regarding the state of Ireland, in 1773: And indeed I think that this paper, in some degree, explains the circumstances which have contributed to the rebellion which has lately raged in that kingdom, and which, I trust, is now fortunately extinguished. It must satisfy every thinking individual, at the same time, that, by attention on the part of the Irish government, by the introduction of industry and knowledge among a people so highly favoured by nature, and by promoting, through the medium of judicious political investigations, useful public institutions, and wise laws, the prosperity of the country, that the seeds of rebellion may be eradicated.

IN compliance with the Society's request of last June, (1773,) I have employed some time in examining, as far as in me lay, the present condition of the parish of Kilronan, in the county of Roscommon, and the adjoining * district; being employed there this summer, in the improvement of a tract thereof, which I have taken to farm last year.

1st query. The face of the arable part of this parish is hilly; the intervening vallies, in some parts a very rich soil, in others, turbarry. The soil of the hills lying south of Bra-lieve mountain, having mostly a sole of limestone rock, and a surface of kind earth, produces sweet herbage and good crops of oats, though the tillage is indifferent.

The hills eastward of Cross-Hill, and extending from the river Feorus, to the stream dividing the counties of Leitrim and Roscommon, are composed, in general, of a brittle, friable, brownish earth, on the surface. As they approach the river Shannon, and the lake, they have a bottom, in some parts, of good manuring limestone gravel. As they ascend up the sides of the mountains, the soil of the surface remains the same colour and quality, about 16 inches deep, and the bottom a rotten slate, through which the water filtrates immediately, and by which the soil up the mountain remains remarkably dry, producing a short and sapless grass, but neither coarse nor spiry.

The parish of Kilronan is bounded on the east by the Shannon and Lough Allen; on the north, by the stream dividing the counties of Leitrim and Roscommon; and mostly on the south and west by the river Feorus.

2d query.

* When I mention the word district, I mean the whole country surrounding the lake.

2d query. Lough Allen is everywhere deep and navigable, about 9 miles long, and the Shannon is intended to be made navigable thereto; though the works at Jamestown, about 7 miles distant, seem to be this season suspended. There are two other rivers, the Feorus and the Argnach; neither of which are navigable, but both apt to swell suddenly with mountain floods, by which they enrich their banks, but the latter remarkably so. * They, as well as the lake and the Shannon, are immensely stored with pike, eel, trout, perch, &c. which may be taken in every season of the year, except the winter months; but never, so far as I can find, employed as a fund of industry by the neighbouring inhabitants, nor sent to any market for sale. The river Argnach, I think, merits a particular description, being in many respects a natural curiosity.

It rises in the glyn which divides Braliave from Sheve Corkrah, and taking a straight line from its source, to its entrance into the Shannon at Balytra Bridge, is about 7 miles long; but if taken by its meandrings, would measure double the length; however, in all its serpentine course, it does not deviate more than half a mile from a straight line drawn from its source to its end. No river in this kingdom swells so suddenly after a fall of rain, the torrent being irresistible, and carrying along an immense quantity of fine earth, sand, mountain sludge, &c. In the first 4 miles of its course, through the glen which divides the two mountains, it has many rapid falls through the rocks, and runs in a line rather straighter than when it entirely quits the mountains at Argnach Bridge; after it passes this bridge, it meanders through a valley for near 3 miles, rendered, by its overflowings, almost

* Answers the 4th query.

most as flat as a water-level, and mightily enriched by its depositing there much of its fine earth and sediment.

Time, however, and some small banks raised against its overflowings by the country people, about 30 years ago, has caused a change in the river in this valley; it widened and deepened its bed, by which it does not now overflow its banks perhaps once a year. By this change, the banks are become from 12 to 14 feet higher than the bed of the river at low water, and produce excellent oats and potatoes, the only corn or roots ever cultivated here; and whether from the richness of the soil, or from the sun's being reflected with more violence from the sides of the mountains in this valley and district, oats ripen here near 3 weeks sooner, than in any part of the neighbouring counties.

From the accounts I have had of the soil producing the fine ombro madder in Holland, there is no spot in this kingdom better adapted to the culture of that root, than the banks of this river.

3d query. There is one mill on this river, well situated by having no land lost by its water course; it is kept in bad repair, and is chiefly used for the purpose of grinding oat-malt for distilling spirits. There is another mill at Ballyfarnon, at the south west extremity of the parish, used much for the same purpose; and the proprietor of this last, erected last season a mill for the purpose of scutching flax; but it must remain until the inhabitants of the district learn to cultivate the same, or else get business from the county of Sligo side.

5th & 7th queries. There is but one market town in the parish, viz. Ballyfarnon; it formerly had a good iron-foundery, and mills, which are now disused for want of charcoal; the weekly market is also disused, there being no trade stirring, but 4 annual fairs are held for the sale of cattle. The
village

village consists at present of about 10 cabbins; the inhabitants of which subsist by dram selling.

In the district are two other market towns, viz. Drimkeerin and Drimshanbo; a weekly market, however, is only held at Drimshanbo on Fridays, which I have sometimes attended, and saw no traffic whatever carried on, and seemed intended only for an assemblage of people for the purpose of whisky drinking.

The roads through the parish and district and the bridges, have been the work of the last 14 years. Before then, this district was the most impenetrable part of the kingdom; but is at present a most convenient passage from the county of Sligo to the counties of Leitrim, Cavan, &c. also from the county of Roscommon, to Enniskillen, and the north.

6th query. Manufactures of any kind, never yet gained admittance into the parish of Kilonan, or neighbouring district, (the making of iron, now dropped, alone excepted.) The only method used by the inhabitants for paying their rents, which are lower here than in any part of the kingdom I know of, is by the sale of the increase of their cattle and pigs. * There are also about 250 horses fed here, which are employed in the carriage of coals and culm from Mr Jones's coalliery, all over the adjacent country. Their method of conveyance, is, by back loads, in small baskets, half a barrel in each; their price about 12s. per ton, for every 10 miles. They cannot be persuaded to the use of wheel cars, though one car would carry two barrels, and the work of 4 horses would consequently be performed by one.

The women are entirely idle, and have no manner of employment. They will not attempt the raising of flax, for
which

* Answers part of the 5th query.

which they will give no reason, but that none of their ancestors attempted it, and consequently that their lands are unfit for it; but I have this season shewn them the contrary, having, for experiment, sown one peck of seed on the banks of the Argnach, and another on the top of one of the driest hills, in a small plot manured last season with lime, and both grew well; the former best adapted for making fine, the latter coarse yarn.

I think this a proper place, to give an account of another species of employment, in which the inhabitants of this parish and adjacent district, spend much of their time, namely, that of distilling. As every cottager, to a man, distills his oats into spirits, every cabbin becomes alternately a whisky house, until the produce is drank. The neighbours making it a point to help out the consumption of their friends produce, he, in turn, pays his compliment in the same way; and a rotation of idleness and drinking is the consequence. The women also, being rather idler than the men, seem very great promoters of this traffic. I have had 12 stills reckoned to me in this parish and district.

8th query. In parts of the parish, adjacent to Balfarnon, they have, many years ago, used limestone gravel with success. In the parts eastward, and north of Cross Hill, they have never used any manures for the improvement of their lands, except dung. I have asked them the reason, and they told me that their soil never produced marl, limestone, or limestone gravel; that they never were used to improve, and if they had, the consequence would be, their being turned out of their farms, when meliorated. I have this summer shewn them their mistake in their two first reasons, by producing, from every hill I tried, good limestone, and limestone gravel. I have turned out some of the latter on the land, and have burned the former into good manuring lime; but

but the people seem rather displeased with the discovery, their latter reason overbalancing every other. In proof of this observation, Thomas Tennison, Esq. who has a large estate in this district, has, within the last 2 years, erected 3 very fine kilns for burning lime, for the use of his tenants, as well as his own, and has manured many fields in his possession with lime; the effect was admirable, and yet I think his tenants profit little by his example.

The district running east of the lake from Drimshanbo to Doobally is totally neglected. The face of the country is the same it was 200 years ago, except that the woods have been consumed by Drimshanbo foundery.

The parts west of the lake, as also the part lying north, between it and Doobally mountain, have been much improved within the last 10 years. Henry Seely, Esq. has built an elegant farm house near Drimkeerin, drained many swamps, and made several fine ditches. The Rev. Mr Crawford has built a good house, and is introducing the cabbage husbandry. And, Mr M'Parlan, the parish priest, is an encourager of industry, by his example, as well as advice, having limed and divided many waste fields.

9th, 10th, 11th & 12th queries. The produce of the land consists of nothing but oats and potatoes; and no other root or corn has been ever attempted, until this last season, that Mr Tennison's limed ground has produced very fine barley. Potatoes rate, in general, at 6d. per cwt. but this year at 5d. The corn is all distilled into spirits. Many horned cattle are bred in the vallies, and reared on the mountains, but the breed is bad. No sheep are bred here; though I am certain, if the dry grounds lying between the mountains and lake were sanded or limed, they would afford an excellent sweet pasture for these useful animals.

13th & 14th queries. I have already said that the women

are totally unemployed in this parish and district. The parish contains 370 families, which, including men, women, grown boys and girls, may be calculated at 4 to a family, which makes at present 1480 hands, who only barely procure themselves a subsistence, and are utterly useless to the public. The whole district is equally well inhabited, and equally idle, except about Drinkeerin.

15th query. I hear of only 2 families emigrated to America last season, and never any before; but by the eager enquiries of the people about their success, I imagine, the spirit of emigration might quickly seize them.

16th query. Perhaps this kingdom could not furnish another district, which could afford so much satisfaction, in respect to your 16th query, as this; to which, however, from my want of skill in many of these matters, I am disqualified to afford you the satisfaction I could wish. However, I can inform you, that throughout the whole district, a vein of very fine coal shews itself; but none is worked at present, except Mr Jones's, and that so badly, that if any water, be it ever so little, comes on the workmen, they are obliged to desist, not having even a common pump to rid themselves of any part.

The variety of strong sulphur spas, &c. scattered through the district, perhaps indicate a variety of minerals, which I want skill to ascertain; and no place in this kingdom, affords so great quantity of iron ore; nor is there perhaps a place in Europe where iron could be made to more advantage, if the method of running the same, with pit-coal, instead of charcoal, could be thoroughly practised.

Here also is the greatest variety of fine potters earth, and inexhaustible quarries of flint lie at the distance of 5 miles from Ballytra Bridge. This has made me often think, with what superior advantage a pottery might be established here,
in

in preference to any place in Staffordshire; the price of land, the * price of labour, the cheapness of provisions, plenty of fish, quantity and cheapness of fuel, are all in favour of this place. Add to this, the benefit of water carriage, like to be soon so universal from this place, by means of the Shannon and Grand Canal. At Durslem, where they manufacture the queen's ware, they carry flint by land 60 miles, and lye near 60 miles from any sea-port. Here, an easy water carriage is likely soon to be effected, to almost every principal port in the kingdom.

The navigation could be easily extended to the west coast. The north-west part of Lough Allen is distant from Lough Gilly, which extends to Sligo, about 7 miles; and the level of the two waters, taken with exactness, is about 8 feet, neither high hills nor deep vallies intervening.

The size of the farms, I take it, would be also favourable to population and manufactures.—The rising grounds, as intersected by the vallies, run from 40 to 80 acres. The proportion of bog and mountain to arable and meadow, exceeds one half, and I take the whole district, on improvement, would turn out from 12 to 13,000 acres.

These are such answers as I can give at present to your queries, which I have made as short as possible, the less to encroach on your time: But I imagined you would not think this district the more unworthy your notice, for being hitherto the most neglected and uncultivated in the kingdom, though perhaps, from its many natural advantages, the most capable of being improved to public and national utility.

3 B 2

If

* Land, 9s. per acre; labour, 5d. per day; coal, 8s. per ton at the pit. Answers 17th query.

If the Society should think any further information necessary from this quarter, their queries shall be answered with all the exactness in the power of

Their very humble servant,

*Ballytra, near Carrick, }
Aug. 25th, 1773. }*

CHA^s. O'CONNOR.

Observations on the preceding paper.

What a field for improvement does not this account exhibit? and, how unfortunate is it, that similar returns had not been made from every other part of Ireland? It might have laid such a foundation for the prosperity of that kingdom, and furnished such means of occupation to its inhabitants, that they would have had other things to think of than rebellion, and would have turned with disgust from those treasonable practices in which they have lately been involved. But if any large proportion of Ireland resembled this district, what else could be expected from a mass of people, ignorant, idle, addicted to intoxicating liquors, and without any profitable means of employment?

*Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, }
3d July, 1798. }*

Attempt

*Attempt to ascertain the POPULATION of SCOT-
LAND, anno 1792.*

By the Rev. DAVID WILKIE, minister of Cults.

From a survey taken at the desire of Dr Webster, anno 1743 to anno 1755, the Doctor found that there were 1,265,380 inhabitants in Scotland, as in the 10 following decades.

Age.	No. of Persons.
From 1 to 10	322,381
10 — 20	235,813
20 — 30	210,791
30 — 40	175,202
40 — 50	134,701
50 — 60	94,840
60 — 70	58,911
70 — 80	25,659
80 — 90	6,495
90 — 100	587
Total,	1,265,380

A Table

A Table of the probabilities of life adapted to Scotland in general, and corresponding to Dr Webster's survey, anno 1755.

Age.	Liv- ing.	dead	Age.	Liv- ing.	dead	Age.	Liv- ing.	dead	Age.	Liv- ing.	dead
0	680	50	24	361	5	48	206	7	72	59	5
1	630	43	25	356	5	49	199	7	73	54	5
2	587	38	26	351	6	50	192	7	74	49	5
3	549	22	27	345	6	51	185	6	75	44	5
4	527	22	28	339	6	52	179	6	76	39	4
5	505	22	29	333	6	53	173	6	77	35	4
6	483	19	30	327	6	54	167	6	78	31	4
7	464	18	31	321	6	55	161	6	79	27	4
8	446	18	32	315	6	56	155	6	80	23	3
9	428	13	33	309	6	57	149	6	81	20	3
10	415	6	34	303	7	58	143	6	82	17	3
11	409	4	35	296	7	59	137	6	83	14	2
12	404	4	36	289	7	60	131	6	84	12	2
13	401	4	37	282	7	61	125	6	85	10	1
14	397	3	38	275	7	62	119	6	86	9	1
15	394	3	39	268	6	63	113	6	87	8	1
16	391	3	40	262	6	64	107	6	88	7	1
17	388	3	41	256	7	65	101	6	89	6	1
18	385	3	42	249	7	66	95	6	90	5	1
19	382	4	43	242	7	67	89	6	91	4	1
20	378	4	44	235	7	68	83	6	92	3	1
21	374	4	45	228	8	69	77	6	93	2	1
22	370	4	46	220	7	70	71	6	94	1	1
23	366	5	47	213	7	71	65	6	95	0	0

In the construction of the foregoing table, each of Dr Webster's decades is divided by 60, making in all 21430, including the addition of 340 to the first decade, for the purpose

pose of retaining the tabular number entire, when half the number of infants, born in any one year, is subtracted.

By this table, the number of births or burials is to that of inhabitants, as 680 is to 21,430—340, that is, as 1 to 31. Of those who are born, 1 out of 30 arrives at 80 years of age; and the expectation of life is as follows.

Age.	Expectat.	Age.	Expectat.	Age.	Expectat.	Age.	Expectat.
0	31.00	25	28.47	50	16.66	75	6.65
5	36.05	30	25.77	55	14.46	80	5.63
10	38.37	35	23.20	60	12.13	85	5.00
15	35.30	40	20.90	65	10.00	90	2.50
20	31.68	45	18.63	70	8.16	95	0.00

Now, supposing that the annual number of births (a), and of burials (b), are to one another as 4 to 3; see the following note 1st; and that the annual increase of population and number of emigrants are in a ratio of equality, (note 2d,) Thus,

$$7 : 4 :: 680 \times 2 : 777\frac{1}{2} \text{ \&c. then,}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a = 777\frac{1}{2} \\ b = 582\frac{6}{7} \\ \frac{a-b}{2} = 97\frac{1}{7} \end{array} \right\} \times 60 = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 46,629 \\ 34,971 \\ 5,829 \end{array} \right\} \text{ An. No. } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{burials,} \\ \text{births,} \\ \text{incr. popul.} \\ \text{emigrants,} \end{array} \right. \text{ anno 1755.}$$

Note 1st. As the country parishes in Scotland may contain about 1,200,000 inhabitants, wherein the ratio of the burials to the births is, in fact, $\frac{2}{3}$; and as the larger towns may comprehend 300,000 souls, wherein the burials and births are in a ratio of equality, or $\frac{1}{1}$.

$$\text{Hence } \frac{12 \times 2}{15 \times 3} + \frac{3 \times 3}{15 \times 3} = \frac{33}{45} = \frac{3}{4}, \text{ the mean ratio.}$$

Note

Note 2d. Seeing there is manifestly a very considerable increase of population in Scotland these 40 years past, and as the number of adventurers is very great during the same period, into England, the army, and navy, the continent, the coast of Africa, the East and West Indies, and America; therefore it will be proper to place them in a ratio of equality.

Again, from these data, to find the amount of the population of Scotland, anno 1792, that is, the increase of population in 37 years, from the year 1755. See note 3.

As every addition to the number of inhabitants, from the excess of the births above the deaths, produces a proportionably greater number of births; an increasing population will exactly resemble the accumulation of money at compound interest, where $PR^t = S$ the amount. Therefore let the ratio of increase to the population, (P,) viz. $\frac{5829}{1265380} = \frac{1}{217}$, be expressed by $\frac{1}{r}$, then $\frac{r+1}{r}$ is equivalent to R, the amount of 1l. in one year, and $P \times \left[\frac{r+1}{r} \right]^t = S$, the amount of population in the time t. Hence, from $L217 + 1 = 2.3384565$.

Subtract - $L217 = 2.3364597$.

Their difference - $\Rightarrow .0019968 = L \frac{r+1}{r}$

multiplied by - - - $37 = t$.

produces - - - $.0738816 = L \left[\frac{r+1}{r} \right]^t$

Note 3d. Although Dr Webster's medium survey might be about 43 years ago, anno 1749, yet as he had every inducement to make the population of Scotland rather large than otherwise, that his native country might appear, in the eyes of government, in as favourable and respectable a light as possible,

possible, I have supposed that his survey corresponds to the year 1755.

To which add, $6.1022209 = £1,265,380.$

Their sum $= 6.1761025 = £1,500,000.$ the amount of population an. 1792, and their difference $= 234,620$ the increase thereof in 37 years, from the year 1755.

How far this calculation is just, can only be proven by an actual survey of Scotland. From the four volumes already published of Sir John Sinclair's Statistical Account of Scotland, it appears, (after making allowance for those returns which give no account of the number of parishioners,) that there may be an increase of 150 in each parish of North Britain; which multiplied by 910, the number of parishes, produce 136,500, the total increase in these parishes. But as the great towns have increased considerably above 150 to each parish of which they are composed; therefore,

From the increase of population in 37 years,	}	$= 234,620$
as above,		
Subtract that of 910 parishes,		$= 136,500$

There remains 98,120 of additional increase in the great towns; which increase, it is presumed, will not be less than that in the great towns by actual survey.

In a calculation, instituted, about a twelvemonth ago, for the purpose of finding the number of inhabitants in Edinburgh and its environs, exclusive of Leith, I was obliged to make a few bolder suppositions than in the above investigation; being only possessed of the bills of mortality, in the Gray-Friars, for the year 1780, and of the probable number

of deaths, in the city and its environs, an. 1790: yet the result did only exceed the actual survey taken in 1791, by 380, as appeared from the public papers a few months after that calculation was finished.

The expectation of life derived from the above table, of the probabilities of life adapted to Scotland in general, page 2d, is not only much inferior to that corresponding to the Fife table of observations, but is also less, excepting at infancy, than the expectation of life produced from an Edinburgh table, an. 1780. From whence it may be inferred, that the bills of mortality are the only proper sources from which such tables of observations ought to be derived.

PARISH

PARISH OF NEWLANDS.

Additional Information.

BY THE REV. MR FINDLATER.

Population.—It hath not been found convenient to make an actual enumeration of the population since the original Report was given in; few general causes have, however, occurred, to afford ground for conjecturing that it hath been any way materially affected.

The manufacturing of paint from iron ore at Lamancha (mentioned in the Report) has been discontinued; but the cessation of employment from this circumstance, would appear to have been more than compensated by the increased demand for labour at the lime quarries, and consequently at the coal mines.

No considerable difference hath taken place as to the mode of occupying the lands, to affect perceptibly the state of population. In two instances lands, occupied by the proprietors in grazing, have been let to farmers; in one of these instances, for the purpose of tillage, which rather speaks to increase of hands. In another instance, a farm, managed by the farmer upon the old unproductive system, has been taken into the proprietor's own hands for improvement; which no doubt bespeaks additional demand for labour. One considerable tillage farm has been let for grazing. No other instances worth mentioning, in point of magnitude, have occurred either as to union or disjunction of farms, or variation in their mode of occupancy.

There were few weavers in the parish dependent upon the weaving of cotton: of course the population was hardly at all affected by the shock given to manufacturing credit in 1793.

Balancing the different causes that have occurred, tend-

ing to diminish or augment the population, I should be led to suppose it increased, since the date of the report, by five or six families.

The before-mentioned causes relate rather to the local transference, than the real state of population upon the whole. It may be observed, therefore, in general, that wages of all kinds have increased since the time of the report, by nearly one half of the then rate, in addition : Nor would this appear to be a mere *nominal rise* proportioned to the depreciation of money ; but a *real bettering of the labourers situation* : For though butcher meat, till very lately, hath been generally dearer in nearly the same proportion ; yet (excepting the dearth arising from the Parliamentary hue and cry in 1795-6,) the prices of grain seem not to have increased above the rate of one third or less of their then rate. In so far then as greater facility of rearing families, affords greater encouragement to marriage and propagation, population upon the whole may be presumed to be progressive : unless we were to suppose an unfavourable disposition in the elements, which indeed, within these 18 months, has manifested itself to be peculiarly noxious to the feline species ; cats, in this county, as in others, having died within that period, by cart-loads, of the yellow fever, as was sometimes imagined ;—the wrath of Apollo fell first upon the dogs in the Grecian camp before Troy ; and in these days of gloom and of prophecy, the death of the cats was apt to be viewed with apprehension as the prelude of some dreadful calamity.

For the reasons assigned in my original reports of this, or the adjoining parish of Linton, no exact returns can be had of births, deaths, marriages, or their respective proportions.

To lay open the inside of this parish, and to afford a sketch of the *quicquid agunt homines*, it may be proper to subjoin, (which I believe was omitted in the report,) An Arrangement

rangement of the Population in regard to Professions, which, though not founded upon actual and exact enumeration, but upon the rough computation of recollection, will be found very near the truth.

Handicrafts, who may occasionally have apprentices, or keep one or two journeymen :

Wrights,	-	-	7
Masons,	-	-	7
Weavers,	-	-	4
Blacksmiths,	-	-	4
Shoemakers,	-	-	3
Tailors,	-	-	3
Other professions,			
Lime Quarriers,	-	-	20
Coal Hewers,	-	-	4
Inn keeper, having a considerable farm and keeping post chaises,			1
Alehouse, keeping also provender for horses,			1
Retail shops, selling also drink,	-	-	3
Retailers chiefly selling meal and barley,	-	-	2
Established weekly carriers betwixt the parish and Edinburgh ; generally also retailers of small articles, as tobacco, soap, candles, wheaten bread, &c.			3
Cadgers, occasionally trafficking in eggs, poultry, skins, &c. for the Edinburgh market,	-	-	2
Carters, professionally so, and possessing land for convenience, at from 12l. to probably 25l. of rent,			8
Dairy and corn farmers, not occupied entirely by their farms, but occasionally performing carriages, &c. for hire, and renting farms from 30l. to 50l. or 60l. of yearly rent,	-	-	9
Dairy and corn farmers, entirely occupied by their farms, (one of them a considerable corn mer-			

chant

chant) and renting at from 60l. or 70l. to about 130l.	-	-	-	13
Grazier and cattle dealer renting grafs parks at perhaps 200l. yearly,	-	-	-	1
N.B. Other grafs parks at about 150l. yearly, are rented by a grazier not resident.				
Sheep farmers, renting at from about 120l. to 250l. yearly,	-	-	-	2
N.B. Perhaps about 40l. yearly is paid for sheep lands, by a farmer who does not reside.				
Proprietor, residing and farming the whole of his own lands, professionally,	-	-	-	1
Proprietor, residing and farming the whole of his lands, for improvement, with a view to letting them,	-	-	-	1
Proprietors residing constantly, or for great part of the year, and farming for conveniency, or to a much greater extent lands, which might let to farmers at from 60l. or 70l. to perhaps 200l. of yearly rent,	-	-	-	4
Minister, established,	-	-	-	1
Minister, of the Relief,	-	-	-	1

Excepting the menial servants in the houses or gardens of the above residing heritors, the remainder of the population is made up of hired servants or day labourers, employed in agriculture and other improvement of the lands.

Most of the handicraftsmen and day labourers, rent land for the maintenance of one or two cows; some of the handicrafts, occasionally keeping a horse: Several of the day labourers (without renting land) have each a cow maintained through summer and winter, by the proprietors of land with whom they are engaged, and from whom they have houses: Farm servants, heads of families, hired by the year, have

have frequently a cow maintained summer and winter by the farmer, also whatever ground their dung can go over properly, for bear, potatoes or lint. Maid servants frequently have land for a 1-fourth peck sowing of lint: Cottars, of which there are not many, get from the farmers, land for lint; also what their dung will go over, for potatoes or bear: Shepherds have sheep grazed, and if heads of families, a cow also.

The above statements show the whole connection of the inhabitants with the lands.

There are no bakers nearer than the village of Linton, nor brewer than the burgh of Peebles; nor butcher except occasionally. Though there is a flesh market at Peebles, the conveniency of weekly carriers to Edinburgh makes it cheaper to get flesh, bread, &c. from thence, than to send on purpose elsewhere. There are no law practitioners nearer than Peebles; no midwife nearer than Linton; nor surgeons nearer than Linton or Peebles.

Inoculation is in use, though prejudices are still entertained against it, chiefly among the poorer classes. It seems uncertain whether or not inoculation for the small pox has *now* any perceptible effect upon population. The ravages of the disease upon its *first introduction* into any country has always been greater, than what could be compensated by propagation under the most favourable circumstances; Upon its *familiarization with the climate or constitution of the inhabitants*, its annual waste would appear easily reparable by the annual propagation. In this state of the matter, though inoculation may *preserve the individual*, it seems not *necessary to the preservation of the species*. It would be idle to suppose that, by any contrivance for the preservation of the individual, the species may be accumulated beyond *the demand for labour*, or, in almost nearly the same words, *the means of subsistence*; and to this extent population will of course ever be speedily carried, where

where the *vis genetriv* is not overbalanced in effect by causes of rapid and extensive destruction, such as war, famine, pestilence, earthquake, or inundation, or Sans-cullottes massacres.

Valued Rent—already stated in the original report.

Real Rent.—This may have increased by an addition of from 150l. to 200l. per annum; exclusive of coal and lime: which two last articles may have risen in rent about as much; and that not merely from the increased demand for lime, as an improvement of the lands; but from the increasing demand for coal as fuel; the farmers engaged in their agriculture, finding it more inconvenient than formerly, to spare the time and labour of their servants and horses in preparing fuel from the peat mosses.

Few farms have fallen out of lease since the date of the Report: Such as have, are raised by the addition of probably two-thirds of the former rent. The leases were formerly of nineteen years endurance; the rents all in money, excepting in some instances, a few poultry or carriages of fuel. The above statement applies generally through the county.

Those skilled in political arithmetic can best judge how far these rises in rent are merely *nominal*, being proportioned merely to the depreciation of money; and how far they are *real* and attributable to the increase both of agricultural capital and skill, by which the lands are rendered *really* more productive.

Taxation—(speaking merely of permanent taxation, and not of the war taxes) though increased, may, to a certain proportion of its extent, prove thus to be merely *nominal*: In so far as it is *real*, does it equal or exceed, or come short of the *real increase of wealth*, and the consequent ability to bear it?

Stipend, Glebe, &c.—The stipend has received no augmentation

tation under the new views, of late adopted by our Law Courts upon this subject ; although it has not been augmented since the year 1775. There was a delicacy preventing any application for a time ; in consideration of liberal and expensive outlay by the heritors upon the dwelling houses at my accession to the benefice : The present season of high, though we trust, but temporary taxation, is unfavourable. It consists of 74l. in money, including communion elements ; twenty-four bolls of bigg, or rough bear, and twenty-four bolls of oatmeal.

The Glebe consists of about sixteen acres, Scots measure ; without including the privilege (belonging to every clergyman in a country parish) of cutting the grass of the church yard, which may contain about a rood of land clear of the church.

	Acres.
Of this quantity there may be occupied,	-
No. 1. By the site of the manse and offices and garden,	$\frac{3}{4}$
— 2. By a small grass inclosure before the dwelling house,	$\frac{3}{4}$
— 3. By an inclosure round the houses and church yard ; kept constantly in tillage, under a rotation of, 1st, Potatoes ; 2d, Bear sown down with grass ; 3d, Hay, mostly cut green for house feeding ; 4th, Oats ; and in four separate breaks or divisions, for convenience of having potatoe and green house feeding near at hand,	$2\frac{1}{2}$
— 4. By an extent of flat land, lying rather discontiguous, upon the banks of Lyne water, subject to be flooded by that water, and which for that cause I have resigned entirely to pasture,	12
	<hr/>
Total,	16
	<i>Manag^d</i>

Management.—Upon No. 4th and 2d, with the help of plentiful green house feeding from No. 3d, I pasture thro' summer two working horses and a riding poney, together with generally five small milk cows, (one of which I intend to calve about the end of January for winter and spring milk,) weighing, when moderately fatted, from 20 to 30 stones, Dutch weight. Such are my conveniences and sources of profit; the land remaining in tillage being however unfit to afford winter fodder for the cattle, this deficiency is in part made up by a small farm.

This farm, of about ten acres in extent, of middling quality, rather wet and spongy, I keep constantly in tillage in four breaks or divisions, and under rotation of four crops.

	Acres.		
Viz. In turnip, or one-fourth of it under potatoe, and			
three-fourths turnip,	-	-	2½
In bear, with grafs seeds,	-	-	2½
In hay,	-	-	2½
In oats,	-	-	2½
			10

I find however, that the farm, with the part of the glebe in tillage, are insufficient to afford 6½ or 7 months fodder, (the ordinary duration of our winters from grafs to grafs) to my three horses and five cows, with incidentally a young quay, reared to keep up the flock of cows, and now come home from hired summer grazing. To supply which deficiency, I rather chuse, in point of œconomy, to buy in annually 4l. worth of fodder, than take the other alternative of buying in cattle in summer, and selling at Martinmas; being conscious (as I suppose most of my brethren in office are) that we are but ill calculated to make a figure in the horse or cattle market.

Such.

Such are the accommodations I have aimed at, and the way I take to secure them.

Profit and Loss are not easily calculated in such a mixed concern.—In regard to my particular management the state would be somewhat of the nature as below.

STOCK ADVANCED	L.	s.	d.	CURRENT CHARGES	L.	s.	d.
				YEARLY.			
To 5 milk cows at 8l. each,	40			To annual interest of stock,	6	9	7
To 3 horses at 14l. each,	42			To wages in money to a dairy			
To 2 carts at 5l. each,	10			maid, herd and ploughman,	20		
To ploughs, harrows, and				To wages of occasional labour			
tackle,	5			in hay season, turnip, and in			
To feed oats for $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres of				harvest, - - -	3		
land in tillage,	2	3	9	To, suppose, half maintenance			
To feed barley for same quan-				in victuals for 3 servants as			
tity of land, with grafs feeds				above charged at 1s. 3d.			
for ditto, -	4	8		per week for each; the o-			
To feed potatoes or turnip				ther half of their mainten-			
for same quantity,	2			ance being derived from			
To winters maintenance for				articles from the glebe and			
2 working horses, before a				farm not charged to profit,	9	5	
crop is obtained,	16			To hired grazing for a young			
To advance of servants wa-				quay once in two years,	10		
ges kept purposely for the				To winter fodder yearly			
glebe and farm (above				bought in, - - -	4		
what would be necessary				To tear and wear of stock			
for mere house work) be-				charged at half the interest,	3	4	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
fore a return is obtained,	8			To rent of the farm, of about			
				10 acres of land,	8	8	
				N.B. No rent is charged for			
				the glebe.			
Total stock,	L.129	11	9				
				Total yearly expence,	L.54	17	4 $\frac{1}{2}$

The annual return of *profit* as under; the disposal of the crop, &c. being marked in the statement.

	Bolls.	L.	s.	d.
To $3\frac{1}{8}$ acres of oats (which from the number of cattle kept in proportion to the tillage, and the fodder bought in, is or ought to be in the best order the soil will admit of) at 7 bolls per acre, produce,	21	7		
Deduct for feed, - - -	3			
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Remains,	18	6		
Deduct oats for the horses (of which the less suffices, as in winter they are much fed upon potatoes,) - - -	6			
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There remains for maintenance to the servants, but not for sale, - - -	12	6		
To 3 and 1-8th acres of bigg, at 8 bolls per acre, produce, - - -	24	1		
Deduct seed, - - -	1	3		
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Remains,	22	3		
Of this remainder suppose 9 bolls go for meal and pot barley for servants maintenance, hence - - -	9			
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Remains for sale at 15s. per boll,	13	9	16	3
To produce of five cows, in fresh butter, and calves, sold to Edinburgh, and in cream, milk, butter and cheese for the family (over and above what goes to the maintenance of servants and day labourers kept purposely for the glebe and farm) at 5l. per cow, - - -	25	0	0	
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Carried over, L,	34	16	3	

	Brought over,	L.34	16	3
To a fatted cow fold once in two years, at				
9l. 9s. in renewing the stock, <i>inde,</i>	-	4	14	6
To eggs and poultry for family use,	-	3	0	0
The hay and turnip and potatoes are all consumed in the family and by the cattle, and none fold,	-	-	-	-
	Total,	L.42	10	9
Balance paid for conveniency of riding, and of work horses for carriage of fuel, or for paying visits in a cart in the family way,		12	6	7½
Thus equal to annual expence,		L.54	17	4½
If to this balance paid for conveniency, viz.	L.12	6	7½	
be added, tax on the riding horse, L.4	12	0		
Do. on 2 working horses,	1	16	0	
			6	8 0

The said conveniencies will cost me annually, L.18 14 7½
 An expence at much under which they might all easily be purchased, if they could possibly be obtained for hire.

From the above statement it would appear, that (excluding the present high taxes) the profit or the loss upon the glebe and farm in conjunction, must be very trifling. If, however, I were confined to the possession of the glebe by itself, (as I must keep the same servants and cattle to manage the glebe, as I do to manage both it and the farm, and as with nearly equal expence of management, the profitable return must be greatly curtailed,) the loss would be considerable.

General

General Observations on Glebes.—I. The original idea of assigning glebes to the Clergy, seems to have been “to supply them, through this means, with conveniencies suited to their situation; that they might be enabled, without unnecessary distraction, to attend to such ministerial occupations and literary pursuits as correspond with their character and profession.”

The legal designation of the glebes of the Scots Clergy, viz. *four and an half Scots acres (including the site of his houses and garden) of arable land; with contiguous pasture land, sufficient for the summer's grazing of two cows and one horse*, did certainly, however, refer to customs existing at the time of the enactment, and which now no longer exist. The parishioners had been in use to plough the glebe and to carry the clergyman's fuel; so as to leave him the use of his *one horse* entirely for the purpose of riding upon ministerial duty; a custom of which there are still some traces remaining in various parts of the country.

Unless the enactment referred to such existing custom, it is not easy to conceive what could have induced the Legislature to fix upon an assignation of lands which is so preposterous and so inhabile to any purpose of accommodation, as to seem rather designedly to have been contrived to create embarrassment.

It cannot surely be supposed to have been the intention of the Legislature, that the clergyman, with his *one horse* and cart, should personally employ himself in the carriage of his fuel; or, that he should guide his own plough; or, that his *one horse* should, singly, draw the plough. If, however, he hires a man-servant, who can dig, plough, sow, mow, graze, build stacks, and in short do every thing that may occur in the farming of the glebe; this servant, so complete in his kind, must be kept at an enormous expence in proportion

portion to any return of profit or convenience to be obtained from his labour. The servant can make, comparatively, but slow proficiency in carriage of fuel with *one horse* and one cart; when, with equal ease, he could, in half the time, perform the same carriage with *two horses* in two carts. Besides, with regard to ploughing, the clergyman must either hire it, where such labour can be procured for hire, and keep his servant looking on idle: Or, he must commence horse jockey (a profession in which he will make but a sorry figure) and buy in annually another horse to plough along with his *one horse*, selling him again after his ploughing is finished, for want of fodder to maintain him: or, if it chance, that there is in his neighbourhood, some small occupant of land, keeping, like himself, only one horse, they must co-operate in management by clubbing strengths—though it is evident that all schemes of mutual co-operation, requiring consent of wills, are troublesome in the extreme; the adjustment of the most petty interests occasioning oftentimes, upon such a scheme, the same expensive waste of time in discussion, as that of the most weighty national concerns among allied powers. The *one horse* too, must necessarily find little spare time for the clergyman's riding, amidst such variety of occupation; and it must cost his master no small degree of previous contrivance, to prevent his riding from interfering with his working, or his working with his riding, as also to carve out work for his servant when his coadjutor the *one horse* is taken from him. No small degree of skill in horse flesh is requisite also in the clergyman to enable him to select such a paragon of an horse as he requires, who must necessarily contain within the compass of his own individual person the whole perfections proper to his species, to fit him for that universality of employment to which he is destined; his horse must be as singularly universal

verfal *qua* horſe, as was the famous Garrick as an actor upon the ſtage.

It is not now the cuſtom of the pariſhioners to plough the clergyman's glebe, or to carry his fuel; nor is it perhaps fit that ſuch cuſtoms ſhould ſubſiſt; being, ſo far as they go, deſtructive of that independence which it is certainly the great intention of an eſtabliſhment to ſupport. As matters ſtand, however, it is evident that a *mere legal glebe*, ſo far from preventing embarraſſment by ſupplying conveniency, muſt neceſſarily occaſion infinitely more diſtraction to the clergyman in its management, than a large farm under direction of a confidential ſervant; and alſo much more unprofitable waſte of labour.

The original intention of the Legiſlature is not now, therefore, answered by the enactment; which is inapplicable to the exiſting circumſtances.

To answer that intention, it would be neceſſary that glebes ſhould be augmented to ſuch proper ſize of a farm, as would fully occupy (including carriage of fuel) a man-ſervant and a couple of working horſes; affording alſo keeping for a horſe or poney uſed ſolely for riding: As alſo to ſupport ſuch a complement of cows as ſhould conſume the fodder raiſed by the labour of the horſes, to yield dung for the land, and to produce milk and butter, &c. yielding profit adequate to the expence of an herdsman and dairy maid, in addition to the ſervants neceſſary for houſe ſervice. Perhaps five or ſix cows (according to the ſize adapted to the paſture) might be a ſufficient complement. And, according to the quality of the ſoil, from 30 to 50 or 60 acres, might ſuffice for the extent of land.

The glebe might be augmented from the land moſt convenient; recourſe being veſted in the proprietor whoſe lands were allocated againſt the other heritors, and a proportional

tional reduction of the stipend being allowed to each, according to the proportion of what he pays for the augmentation of the glebe. It may be objected to this scheme, that an inconvenience might be felt by the intrant clergy, in procuring stock sufficient to occupy so large a farm; most clergymen having no funds, or very slender ones, when admitted to a benefice: When it is, however, considered, that every clergyman upon his admission must, in general, at all events, hire a man servant and purchase a couple of horses, besides one or two cows; the additional expence of this scheme (consisting merely in the purchase of perhaps four cows more, with a few additional bolls of grain for seed) would not appear very difficult to be got over: If the clergyman is young and vigorous at his admission, he might for a time dispense with a riding horse, performing his journies on foot.

As such an arrangement may not readily take place, it may be proper to consider,

II, *The best mode of managing glebes, as they are at present constituted.*—In this view of the subject it may be proper, for the sake of method, to consider the state of glebes, FIRST in towns, or where population is frequent; SECOND in country parishes, where population is thin.

FIRST, in towns, or where population is numerous and labour properly subdivided, and where every convenience and accommodation can be procured for hire; it would undoubtedly be most advantageous for the clergyman to contract his establishment of servants to what is indispensably necessary for mere menial service, i. e. to one housemaid, or a housemaid and a little girl as assistant, if his family is numerous: To let his glebe for rent to some contiguous farmer who could labour it without additional expence of hands or horses: To buy his milk, cheese, butter, and meal, if he

has no meal in his stipend; and to hire his riding, and the carriage of his fuel, &c.

As, however, a clergyman can grant no security of tenure beyond his own incumbency, and of course the tacksmen can have no security of continuance of interest, to induce him to launch out in improvements of distant return; as by consequence such lands must necessarily be doomed to remain in a state of comparative sterility: it might therefore, in the view of public utility, be still more expedient that the land in such situations should be entirely taken away from the clergyman (excepting, no doubt, what suffices for garden, shrubbery, poultry-yard, and such like) and that a compensation should be given him in an annual payment. That the interest of the clergyman may however at all times be consulted, let there be no alienation of the glebe, unless upon application of the incumbent clergyman to that effect, or of the Presbytery in case of a vacancy: And further, to prevent any such measure from being applied for collusively, let no such application on the part of the incumbent be valid, without the consent of his Presbytery. When an application comes forward to the ordinary Judge of the bounds in this proper shape, let it be provided for properly by law, that the glebe shall be sold to the best advantage, by roup or by Jury; let the price then be divided amongst the heritors *pro rata* of their valued rent; and let an addition to the stipend, equivalent to the legal interest of the purchase money, be allocated *in grain* upon the lands in the same ratio.

SECOND, In country parishes where population is unfrequent, where labour is not subdivided, and where of course conveniences cannot be had for hire; it may be indispensably necessary for the clergyman, in point of accommodation to possess land.

If,

If, in such situations, he can obtain possession of no more land than *a mere legal glebe*, it is evident, from what has been already stated, at what disadvantage he must farm it; how dear his accommodation must stand to the clergyman; how dear to the public, from the idle expence of labour in effecting nothing, which if properly applied might have been highly productive.

If the glebe is properly inclosed and subdivided, I should apprehend that the most profitable mode of occupancy, would be *to lay out the whole in grass*; and, alternately, to pasture the different fields for a season; and to close them up for hay after having all the winter's dung spread upon them as a top dressing in spring. The cattle kept would be merely one horse, which would perform no work but the carrying out of the dung to the field to be allotted for hay; and to carry in the hay; the other cattle would be milk cows. The only expence of servants would be an housemaid and assistant girl. The fuel must be hired in. Probably it might be necessary to buy in yearly a quantity of fodder, and certainly some straw for litter to the cattle—if any part of the glebe could be converted into water meadow, it would greatly add to the winter provision of fodder, allowing all the dung to be laid upon a different field for hay. This scheme however necessarily implies, that the carriage of fuel can be procured for hire.

A still better resource (where attainable) would be to rent a small quantity of land lying contiguous; which, in conjunction with the glebe, might constitute the requisite size of farm taken notice of (p. 400.) It is however, evident, that no *legal* arrangement can possibly be formed to secure clergymen, in such situations, in the requisite size of farm. Neither does there exist any stable motive of interest to secure such *voluntary* arrangement on the part of any of the

conterminous heritors. For the farm of the size required, is too small to constitute a farm by itself, for the occupancy of a practical farmer; it would be necessary for that purpose too, that it should have accommodation of separate houses, which cannot be erected but at an expence disproportionate to its value: Either therefore, it must have separate houses, which (in paying rent for the original outlay and in upholding) must cost disproportionately dear to the clergyman: Or the heritor must lye at the mercy of each successive incumbent, who may refuse to rent the farm unless at an inadequate price. As no arrangement can possibly be formed to ensure such accommodation, the clergy in country parishes must continue to farm their glebes in the disproportionately expensive and embarrassing modes already stated.

I must, however, still revert to the scheme suggested, (p. 400-1) as the most preferable mode of accommodation, viz. *the augmentation of the glebe to the proper size of a farm; with a proportional reduction of the stipend.* Yet from the unproductive state in which the lands of the clergy must necessarily remain, from the insecurity of their tenure, it would certainly be expedient to render them alienable, according to the plan suggested (page 402) so soon as the state of population and subdivision of employment, rendered it no longer necessary for the accommodation of the clergyman to possess land—a state to which the majority of country parishes cannot be expected to arrive in the course of centuries to come, if at all.—What is suggested, just now, naturally leads to the inquiry,

III, *What is the best mode of supplying such inducement to the Clergy, as shall lead them to the permanent improvement of their glebes?*—In regard to want of inducement, the glebes of the clergy stand in even a worse situation, as to chance of improvement, than lands vested in corporate bodies. Even
where

where lands are possessed by corporations, and occupied by the whole of the members in undivided commonty (a mode of occupation infallibly condemning them to a state of comparative non-production, so long as it continues) it is still *possible*, though I own, *not very probable*, that the members may have the good sense, and may also fortunately agree to let the whole to a single farmer upon such security of tenure as shall communicate to him an interest leading at least to all the necessary outlay of mere soil-improvements—though no doubt the system of universal suffrage, however it may be admired in theory, is generally found good for nothing, when the question is to conduct business upon a rational plan. The clergyman has, however, no farther interest in his glebe than his own uncertain life, or still more uncertain incumbency; and can communicate no more permanent security to the tacksman. Without doubt, in the course of their professional education, most of the clergy receive a tincture of the liberal arts (a mode of education, by the way, which the decisions of the last General Assembly have most decidedly enforced) and *in point of taste*, may be supposed ready to execute many improvements to which they can have no sufficient inducement, *in point of interest*: The general improvement of the lands must, however, rest upon more efficient principles than *mere taste*, else it will make but slow progress.

Several schemes have been submitted to the General Assembly to create in the clergy a certain interest in the improvement of their glebes, particularly in those of distant return, and most important consequence such as draining, planting and inclosing; though all attempts at an arrangement to this effect, have as yet, been unsuccessful. The general idea of the plans last submitted to the General Assembly (so far as I recollect) seemed equitable: viz. *that the Church should apply for an Act of Parliament, vesting in the Incumbent*

incumbent and his heirs a recourse against his successor in office for his outlay in improvements.

Many difficulties, however, present themselves as to the general arrangement and practical execution of such a scheme.

1^{mo}, The improvements taken under the comprehension of a statute of this nature, must be such as cannot be supposed to indemnify the improving incumbent; during the ordinary period of an incumbency; otherwise an unnecessary bribe is thrown out to induce improvements which would take place of course: They must also be of a nature readily defined, and whose expence can be readily ascertained. Under such limitations, perhaps a general statute could only properly apply to *inclosure, and trees left standing*; in regard to the last too it would seem hard to oblige the successor to pay for them at their value, unless he were to be at liberty to cut and sell them—if the value the glebe would give in rent is to be ascertained at the time an incumbent begins to improve, and the value to be also ascertained upon his incumbency ceasing, and the purchase money of the difference of value, is to be charged against his successor; in that case the Jury would need to be able to judge betwixt the *mere nominal difference* in respect of the difference of the value of money, (which may take place to a considerable extent during an incumbency) and *the real difference* arising from the increase of the powers of production.

2^{do}, Is the expence of improvement, once ascertained, to be entailed as a perpetual debt against every successor in office; or is the first immediate successor to be made the *scape goat* and to pay the ransom for the whole? If it is to be a perpetual debt, must there be a fresh valuation upon each succession; or is no allowance to be made for deterioration?

3^{tho}, At whose direction are the inclosures or the plantations to be conducted? Every one knows that either may be
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so injudiciously planned, as to deteriorate instead of improving the value of the subject; or executed in such an over-proportioned expensive mode, as all the effected improvement cannot possibly repay. Is the direction and the execution then to be left to the good sense or the whim (as it may happen) of the incumbent; or must he, in order to have the benefit of the recourse, previously submit his design to the Presbytery or ordinary civil judge, and obtain their approbation; and afterwards have the expence regularly ascertained at their sight? If he is reduced to this necessity of subjecting himself to the opinion of other people; is there no danger of his relinquishing his design, rather than be thwarted in his opinion?

4^{to}, It is almost unnecessary to mention that in this, as in all laws, where exact specification is attempted, care must be taken to prevent attempts at mere literal compliance with the evasion of the spirit of the law.

Upon the whole it would appear; *imo*, That though more improvement in point of taste, and without permanent interest may be probably expected from the clergy, than from any other class in equal circumstances: Yet in consideration of the want of permanent interest, it might be still more expedient, in the view of public utility, that the clergy should possess no land at all, beyond a garden or shrubbery; excepting in such cases where land is indispensably necessary to their accommodation.

2^{do} That in all cases where the accommodation, intended to be furnished by the possession of land, can be obtained for money or hire; an option should be allowed of alienating the glebe from the church, upon the plan suggested (page 402.)

3^{to}, That where the occupancy of land is indispensably necessary to accommodation; the glebe should in all cases be enlarged

enlarged to the proper size of a farm, keeping labouring servants and horses to accomplish every necessary work by its own internal strength without necessity of co-operation; as suggested (p. 400 and 401): With option, when circumstances change, of alienating the glebe, (as suggested p. 402.)

4^{to}, That meantime (to constitute an interest in improvement) a statute should be obtained, contrived in the best manner deviseable, vesting a legal recourse in the improving incumbent and his heirs against his successors in office for his outlay.

The schoolmaster has a salary from the heritors of 8l. 6s. 8d. as also a salary out of the Poors' money as clerk to the kirk session, of 13s. 4d. making in all 9l. He has also provided and kept in repair by the heritors, a dwelling house, consisting of one apartment upon the ground, like the dwelling of a day labourer; and a school for teaching; together with a few falls of ground for planting kale. The wages for teaching are, per quarter, for English alone, 1s. 6d.; for English with writing, 2s.; for English with writing and arithmetic, 2s. 6d. The heritors in augmenting the wages eight years since to their present rate, which is 6d per quarter on each branch, made no regulation in regard to the learned languages: These indeed are growing less in request—a sheep farmer, by far the most extensive farmer in this parish, after having his oldest son properly instructed in English, writing, arithmetic, with book-keeping and a little of mensuration, hired him as one of his shepherds, as the proper apprenticeship to his profession.

The scholars pay only for the precise time of their attendance, and there is a vacation generally of six weeks during the harvest: Moreover, the children of day labourers are often occasionally taken from the school, when their services are needed;

needed; and from the age of ten they are generally employed in herding cattle thro' summer, attending the school only in winter. The kirk session pay for the children of the poor, from the Poors' funds, in teaching them to read. The schoolmaster, when there is a demand for it, teaches a night school by candle light, during the quarter when the day is at shortest; where those who had received less education in their youth attend for writing and arithmetic, paying for it out of their first earnings of wages.

Taking the whole at an average, we may reckon 20 scholars at 2s. per quarter, for four quarters of the year, hence wages for teaching, - - - L.8 0 0

The other perquisites of office are for proclamation of banns of marriage, 1s. 8d.—for registration of a birth, 8d.—for an extract from the register of births, 6d.—for attestation of moral character from the kirk session, upon removal to another parish, for an individual 4d. for a family 8d. The whole

above perquisites may average yearly,	-	3	0	0
Salary before-mentioned from heritors,	-	8	6	8
Ditto, from the kirk session,	-	0	13	4

Total, L.20 0 0

This with the dwelling house and the kale yard constitute the whole emoluments—by far too small a recompence for such a laborious profession.

No man decently qualified for the office could possibly be found willing to accept of it as his *ultimatum*: and in fact, Scots schools are generally filled by young men prosecuting their studies for the clerical profession, who are willing to accept of the office in the meantime till something better casts up.

It sometimes happens that a wealthy farmer in the neighbourhood

bourhood is willing to take the young man who is schoolmaster into his family ; and to afford him bed, board, and washing for such attendance as he can bestow upon his younger children who are unable to go the distance to school, before and after the ordinary hours of teaching the public school ; which, in fact, doubles the income. Being able to hold out an inducement of this kind, two competitors appeared for the school of Newlands, which was to be settled by election of the heritors upon comparative trial, since my incumbency ; both of whom, besides the ordinary branches, were qualified to teach both Latin, and Greek. The successful candidate, about two years afterwards, stood trial for a better school, which was advertised to be settled in the same manner ; and, without either personal acquaintance of the electors, or any weight of recommendation, farther than his own merit, carried the election over ten other candidates who had presented themselves.

Augmentation of the Emoluments of Schoolmasters, would seem to be a measure both equitable and expedient.

As one mode of augmentation, might it not be proper to throw such things in the Schoolmaster's way, as might afford him some little emolument, without taking him too much from his proper employment ?—Such as clerking to Trustees upon the public roads ; to justices ; to heritors, at parochial meetings ? Might not the schoolmaster keep the scribe-offices, where only a runner is requisite ; the opportunity of the scholars would be very useful in sending intimation of letters lying at the office to people that don't regularly send to the office for letters ; &c.

Where the number of scholars is so few, and the wages of teaching are so low, there might be ground to apprehend, if the salary is very much augmented, that all the difference of emolu-

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ment arising from assiduous, in place of remiss teaching, would constitute too inconsiderable a motive to excite diligence. In this view, might it not be expedient, that *part* only of the augmentation should be given as salary; that the remaining part should not be fixed, but ambulatory, and dependent upon success in teaching, to be judged of by the number of scholars attending the school? To this end, might not a fund be created, under management of the heritors, out of which the schoolmaster is to receive quarterly a certain *premium* upon each scholar attendant upon the school; the number to be ascertained by attestation of the parish minister? Let the premium be fixed at a certain rate per scholar, upon a number not falling short of what may be readily supposed to attend, upon decent diligence in the teacher; the rate of premium for each to rise progressively, in proportion to the excess of the actual number above that fixed upon as the test.

The Poor have no stated pensions; to the end *that no certain dependence may be created, destructive of industry and exertion.* There are no poor's rates. The poor are supplied occasionally and discretely, as need is, by the minister, who is treasurer; who has no rule but his own knowledge of distress as it occurs to his own observation, or is communicated to him by the neighbours of the objects in distress, together with his own rough computation of what the funds may afford. The only capital stock is 80*l.* secured upon bond of the trustees for the turnpike roads. For these sixteen years by-past there has been no addition made to the capital; the annual income being equalled by the expenditure.

The following statements will give an idea of the expence, of the supply, and of the mode of administration.

TABLE I. ANNUAL AVERAGE EXPENCE.

	Stock at interest.	Annual ex- pence of supply.		
		L.	s.	d.
From July 1773, till July 1782,	No Stock	12	2	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
	£.			
From Do. 1782, till Do. 1790.	80	21	1	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
From Do. 1790, till Do. 1795,	80	31	15	
N. B. At my admission in 1790, being less acquainted with the people, and wishing always to err rather in excess, than defect, as to the poors supply, the average comes to be higher than it might have been.				
From July 1795, till July 1798,	80	24	15	3 $\frac{3}{4}$

The average as appears, has been upon the increase; owing in part, to the difference of the value of money, and probably in part to greater liberality and wealth; at present the average may probably be taken at 25l.

II. TABLE

TABLE II. POORS FUNDS..

	Average of yearly Poors Funds.		
	L.	s.	d.
By dues for mortcloth, at 5s. for the best, and 2s. 6d. for the inferior one—upon an average of five years. - -	1	3	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
By dues for proclamation of banns of marriage, at 1s. 2d. each, including some <i>extra</i> pay- ments—upon an average of five years,	0	12	8
By annual interest of the capital of 8ol. -	4	0	0
By balance to be made up by annual voluntary collection that the annual income may equal the annual expenditure, - -	18	18	11 $\frac{1}{2}$

N. B. Fines for cattle trespasses are frequently sent to the Poors treasurer; I have sometimes received 30s. in a season.

Total, equal to expenditure, L.25 0 0

III. TABLE

TABLE III. MODE OF ADMINISTRATION.

THE YEAR.	Total num-ber supplied	Number receiving above 5s. yearly.	Number receiving a-bove 5s. and not exceeding 10 shillings yearly.	Number receiving a-bove 10s. and not exceeding 1l. yearly.	No. receiving above 1l. The sum marked here is the highest given, excepting next column.	L. s. d.	Extraordinary cases where more than usual has been given.
From 1st Jan. 1773, till ditto 1774.	21 and one orphan.	10	6	4	No. 1	1 1 0	1 orphan at 3l. 6s.
From 1st Jan. 1774, till ditto 1775.	18 and one orphan.	8	3	5	2	1 5 6	1 orphan at 3l. 16s.
From 1st Jan. 1775, till ditto 1776.	18	8	3	4	3	1 5 6	
From 1st July 1782, till ditto 1783.	30 and one orphan.	15	6	4	5	2 8 6	1 orphan at 4l. 3s. 6s.
From 1st July 1783, till ditto 1784.	27 and one orphan.	10	7	7	3	2 1	1 orphan 4l. 3s. 6d Expense of 10s. 6d sold at low price 6l 11s.
From 1st July 1794, till ditto 1795.	39 and one orphan.	15	8	6	10	2 6 0	1 orphan 1l. 10. Ex- pence of finding a fa- ther to a foundling
From 1st July 1795, till ditto 1796. N.B. The expence this year was 39l. 4s.	53 and a wi- dow with 6 children.	22	10	8	13	2 6 8	A widow with five young children 3l. 0s. 10d.

In the last year included in Table III. there was an extraordinary collection for the poor, which amounted to about 30*l.* one half of which was given by the heritors; the rest from farmers and substantial tradesmen.

In regard to Table III. it must be observed that the numbers supplied are taken from the treasurer's books; in which, when a family is relieved, the name of the head of the family only is marked; so that the number of individuals relieved may be taken at least at double of what is stated in the table.

Besides supplying the poor, the salary of the kirk-session clerk and the kirk officer or bellman, together with that of the Presbytery and Synod, are all paid out of the poors funds; amounting to about 30 shillings yearly; *and this constitutes the whole expence of management.*

Some time ago an heritor in a country parish brought an action before the Court of Session, in regard to the above *misapplication* of the poors funds; and the Court, upon strict legal principles, found *that it was a misapplication*; the funds being, in intention, destined for other purposes. The result was, that the clergyman and kirk-session abandoned the management of the poors funds, which of course devolved upon the heritors. The consequence of which was the necessity of appointing an heritors clerk, at the expence probably of 5*l.* yearly salary; with the establishment of a poors rate, which had no place before, and which in all likelihood has doubled the expence. It is probable, therefore, that the above misapplication will continue to go on, upon the authority of custom, notwithstanding of the decision; and it will not rashly be challenged by the heritors.

There are 11 heritors, 6 of whom constantly or generally reside. Landed estates within the parish, (exclusive of mine-
nerals)

erals) run from about 120l. to 600l. *per annum*.—The rents from coal and lime may be worth better than 400l.

Nothing further worth communicating hath occurred, since the date of the original Report, in regard to omiffions, to additional information, or to general observations.

STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF LENTHRATHEN.

BY THE REV. ALEX. THOMSON, MINISTER.

THE late minister, though a man of sense and learning, yet labouring under the infirmities of old age, when statistical inquiries were fet on foot, did not undertake writing the account of this parish. An anonymous account, however, was soon published; but not being so complete as could be wished; which indeed could not be expected from a person, who was probably a stranger to the district; it therefore occurred to the present incumbent, after receiving Sir John Sinclair's last letter, requesting some additional information on the same subject, that this might be a proper opportunity of writing a brief Statistical Account of the parish, comprehending as much of the information desired as can be obtained, or as circumstances will admit.

Extent,

Extent, Surface, Soil, &c.

The parish extends from north to south, about ten miles ; and from east to west, between five and six ; not exceeding the distance of four miles from the most fertile and improved part of Strathmore. It may be divided into two districts, the northern and the southern. The northern, or the upper part, consisting chiefly of hills and vallies ; the former, of no considerable height, produces, in its present state, better crops of grass than corn, on account chiefly of the distance from manure. But that the land is by no means of an inferior quality clearly appears from the exertions of some individuals, and particularly of one tenant, who, happening to be in better circumstances than ordinary, by which he has been enabled to do justice to his ground, has had, for some years past, such returns, as may vie with the productions of some of the most fertile, and best improved soil in Strathmore. In the lower district, extending from the southern extremity, about three miles north, the ground is, in general, very fertile, and produces excellent crops of oats, barley and turnip, being advantageously situated within four miles of marle, a very useful manure in this country. This part of the parish has a fine exposure, lies in the form of an oblong, gently declining to the south.

Rivers.—The river Isla bounds the parish on the west. This beautiful stream, after running through Glenisla, the neighbouring parish to the north, falls, upon touching this parish, into a deep rocky channel ; and after five miles of a circular course, it leaves the parish at the castle of Airly, a romantic seat of the Earl of Airly, and runs nearly in a south direction, down to the fertile fields of Strathmore. It

may not be improper to mention a beautiful cascade, called the Reeky-Lin, about two miles west from Airly Castle, where the Isla falls, with impetuosity and noise, from a rock apparently sixty feet high, into a whirl-pool; the appearance of which, especially when the water is in flood, is so grand, that many lovers of natural curiosities have come from a considerable distance to behold it. A little farther down is what is called the Slug of Achranny, where the banks on each side are remarkably high and steep, and the water confined between two rocks very near each other, tumbles down a precipice, exhibiting a tremendous appearance. The other river, Melgum, is much less than the former, though it is a very pretty stream, abounding with excellent trout of a large size, that can be easily caught with the fly in the angling season. The river runs nearly through the middle of the parish and joins the Isla at the Castle of Airly. About two miles up from this junction, it tumbles over four rocky precipices from fifteen to thirty feet high, called the Loups of Kenny, the banks on each side being uncommonly steep. In high water especially, the spectator is entertained with an appearance peculiarly grand and majestic. About half a mile farther down, the river moves for a short way (till it falls into the Isla) in a most pleasant serpentine den covered on each side with natural wood, which delights the eye of every person who can relish the beauties of nature. And this leads me to observe, that as this parish in general is fertile and improveable, and washed with the two above mentioned rivers, it wants only wood to make it one of the most pleasant and beautiful places in this or any other northern county. Some clumps, however, of ashes of considerable size appear about most of the farm steadings, which afford some shelter and embellishment. One farm particularly, called Kinnaird, scarcely half a mile eastward from the church

church and a farm of very good soil, is adorned with one hundred ash trees, some of considerable age;—and about half a mile farther east there is another farm named Shanally, originally the seat of a gentleman formerly one of the heritors of the parish, where there is still to be seen a good number of very fine old trees, of different kinds, that are very conspicuous at a distance, and attract the particular notice of any person who comes to take a view of the country.

State of the People, Buildings, &c.—The inhabitants are, in general, discreet, honest and inoffensive; and some of the farmers are well respected. Their dress is plain; and on Sundays they are always clean and neat; and the writer of this account has the satisfaction to declare, that they are very regular in their attendance on public worship; and have every appearance of unaffected devotion. Here, no religious disputes or controversies prevail, as the people are all, with the exception of two or three, of the established church; and as they are so sensible to believe, that religion consists not so much in entertaining this or that opinion, as in decency and propriety of conduct. It is surely some proof of their good behaviour, that there has been no criminal trial from the parish, nor any seditious mob in it from time immemorial. In this and in the neighbouring parishes, inoculation has been adopted, especially among some of the most respectable families. It is however a pity, that a considerable number of the country people are still prejudiced, through ignorance and mistaken ideas, against this noble invention, though it is to be hoped their prejudices will be gradually removed. With regard to building, the houses are generally one story of mason work covered with thatch. Of late some have been built of two stories and

flated. The farmers are, upon the whole, very comfortably lodged, having, even in houses of the smallest size, one snug neat apartment with a bosom chimney, always kept clean and decent, in which they entertain their neighbours who occasionally visit them. If they are strangers to the luxuries and refinements of some other people in the same line, and which to a superficial observer may indicate greater prosperity, it may be confidently affirmed that they are strangers to many of their vices, and that they enjoy a greater degree of comfort and happiness.

Population, Trades People, Agriculture, and Stock.—The number of souls may be computed at nine hundred and twenty. Any decrease since Dr Webster's report may be owing to some alterations of farms which have taken place within these forty years, and to the diminution of cottagers, and their not being employed by the farmers so much as formerly.

Abstract of baptisms and marriages for the last ten years.

Years.	Baptisms.	Marriages.	Years.	Baptisms.	Marriages.
1788	21	5	1793	26	7
1789	29	4	1794	22	9
1790	24	5	1795	22	6
1791	23	8	1796	24	10
1792	28	10	1797	18	8

No register of burials has been kept for six years past.—In this parish reside at present five square wrights, three blacksmiths, one wheelwright, one shoemaker, three tailors, twenty weavers, one brewer, and one mason. With regard to Agriculture, I find in the northern division, where the tenants have a great dependence on the sale of cattle and sheep, the possessions are small, renting from four to twelve

twelve pounds sterling. Here, from the distance of manure, &c. improvements are but in their infancy. In the south and more improved part, there are two tenants, each of which possesses upward of 150 acres arable, besides pasture to a very considerable extent. About twelve rent from 50 to 100 acres arable. On some of the small farms, the tenants are rather backward in adopting the new system: but others even of that description are very attentive and industrious, there being no less than 600 acres in the parish in proper culture, with sufficient quantity of sown grass, fallow and turnip, and the rotation of crops is not altogether regular; there may be nearly about one half in corn crop, and the other half in sown grass and fallow. Very few farms here being measured, the number of arable acres is not known.

There are five heritors in the parish, the Earl of Airly, Charles Lyell, Esq. of Kinnordy, John Smyth, Esq. of Balharry, James Ogilvy, Esq. of Illabank, and John Milne, farmer of Blackdykes. Of these, Lord Airly is by far the most considerable proprietor, having more than two-thirds of the parish. It has been particularly remarked, that this Nobleman has granted but very few leases to his tenants, and this scheme has been considered as hostile to improvement. It does not become a clergyman to enter into controversy, but it is an undoubted fact that the tenants of the noble family of Airly, both here and in other parishes, have always been remarkable for ease and opulence. Few of the old residents or their descendants have ever been removed, a confidence between the landlords and tenants having prevailed time immemorial. The farmers all declare their satisfaction to continue at the present rent, some of their possessions being very low rated, and none above the value; and if the proprietor and tenant have agreed upon a certain
number

number of carriages to be paid as part of the rent, it does not appear to be considerable. I have been certainly informed, that there was a time, when the whole carriages on the estate of Airly were offered to be commuted at a moderate conversion, but to this the tenants would not agree. Among the few leases granted to tenants in the parish, some are very low rented, and without any carriages. But those who have no regular leases, have been in use to possess on agreement for a period of between fourteen and nineteen years; and as these agreements are never broke through, the tenants consider themselves as in perfect security, and they live satisfied and happy. May this amity long continue. On this head, I think it rather the business of a clergyman to preach the gospel of peace to his hearers, than to make any attempts to raise discord between his parishioners and their master where none prevailed before. But, if the mode of letting farms that has, for some time, been adopted in this parish, should be considered as in any degree discouraging, I am certainly informed, that leases are to be granted to such tenants as have no title of possession, and who may chuse to have them. It is undoubtedly no small mark of encouragement and satisfaction, as well as of industry, that some of the greater farmers have inclosed very considerable parcels of ground; and within these few years, have cultivated from waste land covered with heath and whins, forty, sixty or more acres, which they have discovered to be by no means of inferior quality, and which have produced very good crops of corn and barley.

With regard to the amount of live stock and their value, I am informed, there are about 200 horses, worth, at an average, from eight to twelve pounds sterling, nine hundred cattle, worth at an average, when about three years old, from five to seven pounds sterling; and near to 200 sheep,
worth

worth from ten to eighteen shillings. How much animal food may be consumed in the parish I am uncertain; but not less than one thousand pounds worth of live stock are sold out of it annually. In this parish there are four corn mills, one waulk mill, and a lint mill. In the latter, not less than five hundred stone of lint are dressed yearly, which is raised mostly in the parish. Formerly there was a sufficient quantity of moss, and though it is now a good deal exhausted, yet the most of the parishioners are well enough served with fuel; and they are certainly not in a worse situation in this respect, than many neighbouring parishes. I cannot ascertain the real rent exactly: but it is computed at an average, from nine to ten shillings per acre, though some of the ground is let at twenty shillings.

Church, Stipend, School, Poor.—The church is old and rather small for the parish; but it is proposed to enlarge it or to build a new one. There was a new manse built about three years ago, consisting of six rooms, a kitchen, milk-house and cellar, with other conveniences; so that the clergyman is as decently and comfortably lodged as any in his station can reasonably expect. The stipend was, since the year 1720, not more than 400*l.* Scots, with two chalders and a half of victual; but an augmentation was obtained in 1796, and it is now three hundred and thirty-six pounds Scots, and thirteen bolls of victual; so that at an average, the living will amount to upwards of one hundred pounds sterling, with a glebe of more than the legal size, of excellent soil, and about three acres more for which the Minister, for time immemorial, has paid no more than twenty-two shillings sterling, little more than seven shillings per acre. By the goodness of the family of Airly the present incumbent pays no more. He has been nearly five years settled. The Hon.

Walter

Walter Ogilvy of Clova, is patron. There is a very sufficient school-house built of mason work and slated, but not yet quite finished within. Both master and scholars will be perfectly well accomodated. The number of scholars may be reckoned from 16 to 20 in summer, and from 40 to 60 in winter. As to the school salary, which is only eight bolls of corn; it may be mentioned, that there was lately a school master, who resided in that capacity about sixty years in the parish; and that no augmentation to the salary took place, might be owing to his not demanding it; and that the tenants from long acquaintance, and from a regard for the man, gave him yearly, perhaps, double the quantity of oats to which he was legally entitled. The number of poor on the session roll is from five to seven. The funds are about 120*l.* sterling; the interest of which, with the rent of a gallery in the church, and from four to five shillings of weekly collection, with the mort-cloth money, is sufficient to support the few that are really indigent.

Lakes, Antiquities.—About a quarter of a mile west from the parish, there is a lake, commonly called the Loch of Lintrathen, surrounded by rising grounds, excepting on the east. There are several lakes in this county of Angus; but this is universally allowed to be incomparably the finest. It is nearly circular, about one mile from east to west, and three in circumference. It is believed to be fed mostly from springs, as the few very small rills from the surrounding heights, would be insufficient for that purpose. The water is transparent. In some places the depth is immense—but where it could be done, attempts have been made to discover marle, which, however, have not yet been found successful. Could this manure be found in the loch, to drain it might be practicable. It abounds in pike, perch, trout and eel,

eel, all of exquisite quality. The trout, of a large size, taste very much like those of Loch Leven. It is very remarkable, that, in this lake, the trout have not been known to take the fly, except in a very few instances. About half a mile north west from the Manse are to be seen several cairns, perhaps memorials of some engagement, but there is no tradition; and on a rising ground, not far from this, there is a stone of about fourteen feet high, and four in diameter. It stands perpendicular: and near it are other two of about the same size lying on the ground. But as there is no inscription upon any of them; and as tradition is silent, I can say nothing about them. Near the west end of the lake there was an extensive inclosure, and there are still some remains of it, which, tradition says, was a deer park belonging to Sir Allan Durward of that ilk. On the south-west declivity of the hill of Formal, near the river Isla, may be seen the ruins of this gentleman's house.

Vol. I. No. LII. Page 482.

*Parish of Lismore.**Corrections, by the Rev. Donald M'Nicol.*

Page 487, line 2d from the top, *for* weasels, white rats, *read* weasels or white rats: White-rat is the Scots name for weasel.—Page 491, line 1st, *dele* &.—P. 491, about the middle, instead of ‘building new churches,” &c. my representation was, ‘for erecting or establishing new parishes.’ Building new churches, without clergymen to officiate in them, would be a nonsensical idea.—P. 493, line 5th from the bottom, instead of ‘Roman fortifications,’ foisted in I know not how, read simply ‘fortifications:’ for no Roman ever forced his way to the west beyond *Tayindrom*, *Scotiz dorsum*, or *Druim Alabain*; so that *Roman* fortifications would confound all history.—P. 493, line 4th from the bottom, instead of ‘fufee’ read ‘fosse.’—P. 495, line 7th from the top, insert, (as in the original MS.) ‘This was probably the horn of the ‘bifon, a creature of the cow kind, of old an inhabitant of ‘some northern regions.’—If agreeable, you may add the following dimensions of a skull of the cow kind, found at Lismore since the publication of the Statistical Account, and now lying at Lochnell house. The dimensions are perhaps not to be matched in the natural history of Britain.

Extent

	Feet. Inch.	
Extent from the extremities of the bend of the horns	2	11
Circumference round the roots of the horns	1	5
Length of the horns, following the curvature without	2	8
Distance between the eyes	1	0 $\frac{1}{8}$
Length of the skull from the snout (not entire) to the upper part of the head	2	2
Circumference of the eye-socket	0	10 $\frac{1}{2}$

Vol. II. No. XLI. P. 461.

Parish of Blair-Atholl.

An Appendix to the Statistical Account of the united Parishes of Blair-Atholl, Strowan, Lude and Kilmaveonag; by the Rev. James M'Lagan.

Valued Rent.—By the last and best account of the valued rents from Perth, they amount, in these four united parishes, in Scots money, to the sum of 4,344l. 15s.—The merks or ploughs of land in these parishes amount to about 233.

Stipend.—Since the publication of the Statistical Account of these parishes, an augmentation of three chalders of victual, half barley, half oat-meal, with 5l. for communion elements, in all about 40l. has been modified: But as the heritors do not agree about the locality, none of it has been paid, nor is it certain when it shall. Were this point settled, the whole stipend, glebes included, would amount to about 115l. 17s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. The glebes are mostly set to tenants, who pay the main part of their rent in corn or victual, with some o-

ther small articles — The old kirk of Kilmaveonag was lately rebuilt, and converted into an episcopal chapel.

The schoolmaster's salary amounts, in sterling money, to 15l. ; of which the heritors pay 10l. and the bishop rents 5l. The number of scholars, at an average, is from 86 to 90, boys and girls.

There is a society school at Strowan, where one of the kirks stands, in which the number of scholars in winter amounts generally, in boys and girls, to 70. The teacher's salary is at present 10l. Some time ago there were three more charity schools here, which are now withdrawn. In some sequestered corners, the people are obliged to hire some one to teach their children during the winter and part of spring.

The poor's fund at interest is 225l. sterling. The number of poor, at an average, amounts to from 74 to 78.

The number of mechanics is,

Smiths	-	-	6	Shoemakers	-	9
Carpenters	-		27	Flax-dressers	-	16
Weavers	-	-	38	Masons	-	3
Tailors	-	-	32	Bred midwives	-	2

Physician, surgeon, or attorney, there is none.

I am credibly informed, that it was in these united parishes that the famous Montrose first erected his standard ; and it is well known that 700 or 800 Atholians fought along with him till after the battle of Kilfyth. They were generally commanded by Colonel Alexander M'Donald of the island of Colonsay, commonly called *Alastair Mac Colla*.

Vol. II. No. XLVIII. P. 547.

Parish of Kilmuir.

Additional Communications, by the Rev. Donald Martin.

The state of the population this year, 1798, is - 2150

The population in the year 1790 was - - 2065

Increase, 85

I cannot account for this increase, as there has not been any manufacture introduced; it is, notwithstanding, a matter of fact, that the population here has been increasing for fifty years back.

The stipend consists of money only, which, with the value of the glebe, makes the living amount to 80l. sterling. There have been no experiments made to ascertain the most profitable mode of managing the glebe. The same system which prevails invariably in this country was always followed; and that is, to have part under corn and hay, and part in pasture. At the same time, it appears to me clearly demonstrable from calculation, and it is conformable to experience, that no crop should be raised in Skye at all, but hay alone. Nature has evidently intended this country for pasture; and, of course, cattle should be our chief care. The climate is so unsteady, that our expectations from crop are very commonly frustrated; and the expence of making that crop exceeds the returns even when they are most flourishing.

The

The sums collected in the three parishes, Portree, Snizort and Kilmuir, for the support of schoolmasters, were, about thirty years ago, joined together, at Portree, for the purpose of procuring a master of ability and regular education; of consequence, the school erected there became a distinguished seminary of learning, and prepared many young men for the university.—We have only one society school in the parish; it is generally well attended.

The poor receiving alms are about sixty. There is no fund, nor regular fixed establishment for their support. Small Sabbath collections, and fines from delinquents, (all amounting to very little,) are distributed among them, in proportion to their respective need: And our truly worthy young nobleman, Lord Macdonald, has, two years ago, when he first came to the country, allotted a sum of money to be laid out in annual pensions to the neediest of the above, recommended by me; which recommendation was accompanied with a description, in writing, of the condition of every individual. At that time, and upon his arrival this year, he has added handsomely to our Sabbath collections. He also ordered pensions to be given in all the other parishes on the estate.

This parish terminates the most northern point of Skye, and the inhabited part is a semicircle. The length of the parish along the semicircle is 11 computed miles, above 16 English; and the breadth about 8 of the latter. Part of the land is under corn, part laid out for pasture, and a small proportion for meadow hay. All the mountains, and part of the low ground, are covered with heath. There are no woods.

Value

Value of Stock.

Number of black cattle, young and old, 2910,			
valued at 3l. each	L. 8730	0	0
small sheep for domestic use, 1700,			
valued at 4s. each	340	0	0
goats, 125, valued at 4s. each	25	0	0
horses, 300, valued at 3l. each	900	0	0
	<hr/>		
	L. 9995	0	0

Annual Produce—Sold.

Black cattle fold annually, 660, valued at 3l.			
each	L. 1980	0	0
Kelp fold annually, 80 tons, valued			
at 5l. each, is	L. 400	0	0
From which deduce 2l. for manu-			
facturing each ton; (250 per-			
sons are employed at the kelp			
every June and July)	160	0	0
	<hr/>		
	240	0	0
	<hr/>		
	L. 2220	0	0

Annual Produce—Of which only an inconsiderable part is fold out of the parish; and although it is the best corn country in the island, the inhabitants of the parish could always consume its produce.

1600 bolls oat and bear meal, at 16s. per boll,			
(both are at the same price)	L. 1280	0	0
5000 barrels of potatoes, at 2s. each	500	0	0
	<hr/>		
	L. 1780	0	0

Expence

Expencc of making the above crop.

200 men employed the greatest part of winter,			
all spring and autumn, in tilling the			
ground, sowing and reaping the crop, at			
8l. for wages, victuals and shoes	.	L. 1600	0 0
100 women thus employed, at 3l. 10s. each,		350	0 0
Interest of 1000l. stock in horses	.	45	0 0
Stock in utensils	.	60	0 0
<hr/>			
Total of expence,	.	L. 2055	0 0
Total value of crop,	.	1780	0 8
<hr/>			

Annual loss by crop, besides the value of
the feed L. 275 0 0

N. B. If to the above we add the rent of the soil under crop, and the value of the pasture which that soil would produce if not tilled, we shall find that raising crops in Skye (hay by all means excepted) is a most ruinous system.

There are no manufactures; no commercial produce; no mineral produce; no produce of fisheries, except what the people fish for domestic use, and they go far and near in pursuit of herring for that purpose.—There is no physician, no surgeon, and no regularly bred midwife.

Vol. IV. No. LIX. P. 450.

Parish of Banchory-Davnick.

*Corrections and additional Communications,
by the Rev. George Morison.*

A very important inquiry was, By what means may the interests of the parish be advanced? In reply, I mentioned the very great distance between my church and that
of

of Fetteresso, the adjoining parish; and gave some account of two chapels of ease, one in each parish, which this distance has occasioned; and by officiating at which, Mr John Scorgie, a licentiate of our church, earns a scanty subsistence. Of this, not one word appears in your volumes.— One phrase, which escaped my pen, I could have wished altered; I mean *secular arm*, (Page 455. Vol. IV.); where *the cognizance of the civil courts*, or some such expression, would have been less exceptionable.

What farther information I have it in my power to give, with respect to the state of this parish, I shall now, with the utmost pleasure, communicate; and which I have uniformly refused to others, whose aim perhaps might be to reap the fruits of your industry and perseverance.

If the present state of population in this parish differs at all from the former return, it is so inconsiderable, as to merit no notice. Tables of births, deaths and marriages are not kept here; and a variety of local circumstances renders it difficult to procure the wished-for information. I shall only mention (relative to the first) the unconquerable inattention of the people to the registration of the names of their children; many of whom are baptized by an episcopal clergyman, who resides in the parish of Fetteresso, and in the vicinity of that part of this parish which is most distant from the church.

The valued rent of this parish is 3112l. 13. 4d. Scotch.

By a late decree of the court of teinds, obtained in consequence of a process of augmentation, the stipend amounts, at present, to 62l. 4s. 9½d. sterl. in money; 55 bolls, 1 peck, 2½ lip. of meal; and 27 bolls, 1 firr. 1 peck, 1½ lip. of bear.

—It was the intention of the court to exhaust the teinds;

but unfortunately, owing to the inattention of those concerned, they have gone a little farther on one estate, which has involved me in a process of reduction, which is still in dependence.

The glebe, including garden, stance of houses, &c. measures only five acres and a quarter; and, on the pasture, the river Dee has made such incroachments, that the heritors have for many years been in the practice of granting some allowance in money to the incumbent.

With respect to the management of such a glebe, I shall only observe, that, after having tried different schemes, in a period of five or six years, I found that I purchased the accommodations which it afforded at a very high rate. This determined me to become tacksmen of a small adjoining farm which happened to be vacant; and which, with the glebe, gives employment to a couple of horses. So that now the question with me is not, what is the most profitable mode of managing a small glebe? but, what is the most profitable mode of managing a small farm consisting of between 30 and 40 acres? a question, the discussion of which, were I equal to the task, would encroach upon your patience.

I shall however take this opportunity of remarking, that, on such a farm, it must be of the utmost importance to raise the weightiest green crops possible; on this account, broad-cast turnips are to be preferred, as affording from one third to one fourth more per acre, *ceteris paribus*, than those which are horse-drilled. But, to hoe broad-cast turnips *well*, is a very nice operation. A turnip, when young, is a very delicate plant; and if earth is thrown upon it with the hoe, especially in wet weather, and it happens immediately after to be trod upon, it never recovers. To obviate this, and other inconveniences attending broad-cast, I have, for five or six years, sown my turnips with a *hand drill*, which, at each time

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it is drawn across the field, makes 3 drills at 18 inches distance, sows the seed and covers it. By this means, my turnips require little dexterity in hoeing them, and are never smothered with earth. If such a machine appears a *desideratum* on small farms, I shall with pleasure send you a model or drawing of it, with directions how to use it.

The parochial schoolmaster here is Mr Robert Cormack. He had his education at Marischal College; but never raised his views higher than his present situation. He is a most industrious and successful teacher; labouring in his *vocation* from Sunday to Sunday, and from morning to night. He has the merit of having established a Sunday school here as far back as 1782. Not fewer than 70, on an average, attend regularly in the course of the day; young men before public worship, and young women after it: and this indefatigable teacher attends them *gratis* from six o'clock in the morning till late in the evening. How inadequate is this man's salary, although amongst the highest enjoyed by country schoolmasters! It is 11l. 3s. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. sterling.—The number of daily scholars last year was upwards of 60; but before the commencement of the present war it was greater.

The number of poor upon the roll is 25, on an average; but a good many more receive occasional assistance from our funds, which are so good, that there are no vagrant poor belonging to the parish. The capital stock of the poor's funds consists of land yielding 6l. sterling of yearly rent, and nearly 200l. in money at interest. The annual collections amount to 23l.; and for the use of mortcloths, burying ground, dues on placing gravestones, &c. about 32l. is drawn. Besides these sources of income, one estate in the parish is burdened with 5l. and another with 3l. 6s. 8d. annually, to be distributed to poor householders within the parish.

It is unfriendly to the interests of this parish, in many respects, that although there be no fewer than ten heritors, none of them reside in the parish, except Mr Thomson of Banchory, who resides during summer.

Agriculture appears in this parish in all its various forms; infomuch, that to give any particular account of the treatment of the land were impossible. I am happy, however, in being able to state, that a spirit of improvement is diffusing itself fast; and to this the turnpike roads, which are made in different directions through the parish, contribute not a little.

There are three midwives in the parish; and from the vicinity of Aberdeen, where is an infirmary and many professional men of abilities, the parishioners here can be at no loss for excellent medical and surgical aid, when necessary. But it unfortunately happens that the cheapest is often preferred; and any half-taught apothecary, who places a *Cullen's* head over his door, and impudently has the word *Doctor* painted under it in large characters before his name, procures more employment among the lower classes, than the most able physician.

Prejudice against inoculation is so deeply rooted here, that very little progress has as yet been made towards removing it.

Vol. VI. No. X. P. 75.

Parish of Culter.

Correction, by the Rev. William Strachan.

In the Statistical Account of the parish of Culter, in the presbytery of Biggar, formerly transmitted to you, it was said, that the word *Culter* was a Latin one, signifying a coulter or ploughshare, but on what account so called uncertain. This was the only definition I could at that time procure, after a variety of enquiries at different people, who, I supposed, might be able to give me information. From persons acquainted with the Gaelic language, I have since learned, that *Culter* is a Gaelic word, and that the signification of it is, ‘the back, or hinder part, of the land or country,’ which exactly describes the situation of the parish; the county of Lanark terminating with its boundaries on the east and south-east, and there adjoining to Tweeddale. A question however here arises, viz. Whether this name was given before, or since the division into counties took place? But however this may be, I am assured, by gentlemen who understand the Gaelic, that the above is the true meaning of the name. In confirmation of which, I find that Buchanan, in the 6th book of his History of Scotland, observes, that the country adjoining from the Tay to the Forth was called by the antients *Ross*, i. e. a ‘peninsula;’ and, adds he, “there are some signs of the name yet remaining, as *Cul-ross*, a town, which is, as it were, ‘the back, or hinder part,’ of *Ross*.”

Vol. IX. No. XXX. P. 439.

Parish of Crail.

*Additional Answers and Corrections,
by the Rev. Andrew Bell.*

Present state of the population, according to an account taken in 1797-8: viz.

In the town	-	-	1236
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In the country	-	-	388
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Total			1624
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The real rent is supposed to be from 4000l. to 5000l. sterling per ann.

The stipend was lately augmented 10 chald. 2 fir. 2 pecks, 1 lip. of bear; 260l. Scots money, stipend, and 100l. Scots for communion elements. The glebe consists of 5 acres, with grass for two cows and a horse, designed this year, after a process before the Court of Session: Glebe and foggage worth about 20l. per annum. At present the whole is let out; the minister having neither barn nor barn-yard to enable him to farm himself.

The poor's funds are pretty nearly the same as in the former return; only the session has at present no money at interest; having laid out what it had in erecting seats in the church, which are let out at from 6d. to 1s. per seat room. The collections at the kirk door amount to about 10s. per week. Including the collection at the sacrament, and for cloathing the poor, the amount may be from 36l. to 40l. per annum.

For

For several years the fishery has been very bad, and the number of hands fewer than by the former return. The fishermen, during the summer, frequently take voyages to Greenland and the Baltic, in coasting vessels, &c. Tradesmen and day-labourers assist in manning the boats, when employed in the herring fishery; and a good many of our seamen, who are occasionally fishermen, are now in the navy.

Little kelp is made in the parish; the value not known; but the rent paid for liberty to make it is from 12l. to 20l. once in two or three years.

Two midwives; no surgeon. Little inoculation. In 1797, twenty children died in the natural small pox.

State of the Births and Marriages in the parish of Crail,
for 1792, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.

Years.	Births.			Marriages.
	Males.	Females.	Total Births.	
1792	24	24	48	11
1793	14	35	49	6
1794	23	27	50	7
1795	12	26	38	9
1796	24	23	47	11
1797	18	15	33	14
	<hr/> 115	<hr/> 150	<hr/> 265	<hr/> 58
Average .	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	25	44 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{4}{5}$

N. B. In general, there is a registration of marriages only when the bride is in the parish.

Burials.

Years.		Burials.	
1794	-	41	
1795	-	29	
1796	-	33	
1797	-	59	{ —Of these, 20 children in the natural small pox.

In an old manuscript inventory among the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum, there is mention made of the following charter, ‘ To the *prior* of Crail, of the second teinds of ‘ the lands between the waters of Neithe and Nith.’ It is mentioned in the roll of charters of King David the Second. This information the minister lately received from N. Hut-
ton, Esq. who has been long employed in collecting materials concerning our old monasteries and religious foundations.

Corrections of the former report.

P. 439, l. 5. For ‘ Kingscavin mill,’ read ‘ *Kingscairn* mill.’

P. 441. l. 16. The sentence should have been as follows :
‘ That it prevents the barley from lodging so much as it is
‘ apt to do when sown unmixed ; a circumstance peculiarly
‘ prejudicial upon a damp soil, from the great quantity of
‘ undergrowth it is disposed to draw up ; and that, from the
‘ *round* figure of the ear, and the drier quality of the straw,
‘ it assists much in winning and preserving the whole crop
‘ in late and rainy seasons.’

P. 450, Note, l. 13. For ‘ fix,’ read ‘ eight.’

Do. Do. l. 3d from the bottom. After ‘ 255 marks,’
add, ‘ and eight chalders of victual’—A very material
error.

P. 450—451. The minister can now state, that the ruin there mentioned, the *south east* gable of which is still standing, is *not* the ruin of the chapel of St. Ruff, or Rufus. That chapel appears to have been *infra castellum de Carrail*, or *in castello*; probably pretty near the place where Mr Coldstream's summer house now stands. Vide p. 454.

Vol. XII. No. XLI. P. 602.

Parish of Wamphray.

Supplementary Account,
by the Rev. William Singers.

Situation, Extent, &c.—About 8 miles from the source of the river Annan, the central river of Dumfries-shire, the parish of Wamphray begins; and runs downwards, along the eastern bank, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles: being intersected near the middle by Wamphray water; and bounded by the parishes of Moffat on the N.; Kirkpatrick-juxta and Johnston, from W. to S. W.; Applegarth, on the S.; Hutton, on the E.; and Etterick on the N. E. The breadth varies, from 2 to $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The distance of the center of the parish from Edinburgh is 58 miles; from Glasgow, 63 miles; from Dumfries, the county town, 18 miles; from the burgh of Annan, at the river mouth, 22 miles; from Moffat, the nearest market town, 7 miles;—reckoning always by the English mile. In all these directions, there are turnpike roads, in good repair. The latitude is $55\frac{1}{2}$ degrees N.; longitude, $3\frac{1}{4}$ degrees W.

Aspect and Figure.—The aspect is to the S. W.; the figure, that of an irregular amphitheatre, of which the straight part is along the river Annan. The level part extends from thence about a mile, to the N. E.; and behind it, the traveller takes notice of two ridges of green hills: the nearer of which is mostly arable; and the farther, much higher than the other, intermingled with short heath, and affording admirable pasture for sheep. From the heights, the water of Wamphray falls down, through deep linns, into the level ground; crossing the great road from Glasgow to Carlisle, in a gravel bed, and falling into the Annan. In this gravel, it sometimes disappears; at other times, it does considerable damage, and even raises terror, coming down in floods.—From three miles to one mile above the mouth, Wamphray water presents a beautiful scenery. Here, it has shaped out stupendously deep linns; the sides of which are so closely covered with woods, that it is not seen, except here and there, in its rocky course, at the bottom. The fall of the water has worn the rocks into a number of cascades. On the north brow of the linn are ruins of buildings, where the family of Wamphray once resided; and on the opposite brow appears the manse: the buildings, the tall woods, the deep linns and water falls forming a scene singularly romantic. Clumps of trees are seen in different places throughout the parish; and to the westward, the eye marks the happy effects of improvement, in a large plantation of fir trees; and also in the parish of Johnston, on a large tract of land, which was lately a barren moor, but is now covered with rich crops. On the same side are seen the venerable ruins of the tower of Lochwood, the old family seat of the lords of Annandale, appearing over the aged trees that surround it.

Climate.

Climate.—That of Edinburgh is much drier; that of Glasgow, moister; the town of Dumfries is warmer and earlier. Our climate is more fit for pasture than for crops; yet an industrious farmer raises good crops, the soil favouring him, which is kindly. If the season be wet, our hill crops are good; if dry, the low grounds succeed better. There was abundance here, even in the calamitous seasons of 1782 and 1783. West winds are prevalent, and they often bring rain. The south wind coming in from the sea, to the W. of the Solway Frith, brings great rains. Falls of snow, succeeded by sudden thaws, or by alternate thaws and frosts, injure the sheep stocks: and the injury is the greater, because the pasture hills are bare of shelter; no large rocks to defend the sheep; and the woods mostly in water courses, which are dangerous under a thaw. It is a thing, in course, to expect our Lammas Flood. Winds are seldom hurtful, unless they happen to catch the ripe corn on hill grounds. A mildew, sometimes, though not often, floats on the holms by Annan side, and hurts the crops. The 26th of Jan. 1794 brought a heavy snow, which, in going off, did great damage to some of our store farmers. The greatest flood ever remembered was in August 1797; yet it was local in a great degree, and the damage less than one would have expected. We consider the climate to be salubrious; and the population tables, in some degree, prove it so. No climate can be fitter for the rearing of all kinds of cattle; violent extremes of heat or cold not being much known.

The rising of high towering clouds from the sea in the southern horizon, is a received sign of great rain. A light coloured vapoury cloud, hanging on the heights of Wamphray, on the N. E. is the sign of wind. Thin fleecy clouds, gathering in the sky, (Virgil's 'tenuia vellera,') are thought to precede rains; the same is observed with respect to parallel ranges of

vertical clouds, appearing in perspective, as if they drew to a point, at each extremity, and on this account, called by the people, Noah's Ark; and it is frequently found that the wind which follows this appearance, blows directly across the lines formed by the clouds. It is also noticed, that even halos or circles round the sun, if they extend themselves, are followed by fair weather; though it is the reverse, if they contract and draw near the sun's orb. The falling of the mercury in barometers, suddenly, is generally accompanied with an uncommon noise among the crows in Wamphray linn, and foul weather succeeds. We are accommodated with two conspicuous weather hills, Criffle to the south, and Queensberry to the west. The piercing heights of Skiddaw Fell in Cumberland, are also seen from our high grounds; from all which places, the settling vapours give notice of approaching rains.

To accommodate things to the climate of the place, the farmer endeavours to have his sown grass made, and in summer ricks, by the end of July; leaving the cutting of his meadow grass till the Lammas rains cease. If he sow pease, he chuses the hot seed, to prevent their growing too late. He mingles rye grass with his clover, to help to win it the sooner. He sets the ends of all his corn stacks to the south. And when he has got his corn into stacks, he delays not to thatch them. Builders are at pains to lay the stones, so as to hang a little, and throw out the rain; they also prefer that kind of slated roofs, which is done upon laths, and all the inside rendered with lime. A kind of roof is frequently used, of thin red freestone; but it is heavy; and unless the stone be well chosen, and laid steep enough, it draws through the pores, and the rendering falls off. Our sheep farmers have not got into the use of circular dykes; but a plantation of fir trees, in form of a cross, answers the purpose much better,

better, and this has been tried. To keep out-lying black cattle in condition, coarse hay is put up in small inclosures, near their pastures, and from thence the farmer feeds them as he sees necessary. Potatoes are preserved without much difficulty, in pits, or in low houses, all the year round.

It would be well if we were as attentive to the constitution and temperament of the body as to the produce of the earth; but all the seasons find us in the use of the same dress; and hence it is easy to account for the frequency of rheumatisms. The dress which is warm enough in winter, is certainly too warm for summer. Perhaps it is worth notice, that husbandry implements, though high priced, and generally good, are little attended to; the climate is left to work its effects upon them, and actually destroys more of them than the culture of the earth.

Soil.—The soil is of three kinds. 1st, The deep holms along the course of Annan; an excellent pasture soil, and with plenty of manure, yielding rich crops; but it is greedy of manure, which is easily accounted for. The level appearance of these holms, and their situation, indicate that they are deposits formed by the river; and the light colour, and looseness of the soil, give reason to suspect an over mixture of sand, or broken particles of freestone. Let it also be observed, that the floods of this river, are suddenly down from the hills, and bring little or no richness along, to fertilize the deposits made by it.

2dly, We have a light loam, of different shades, from a bright red colour, to a dark brown, or even black. This light soil is good, and it amply returns all the kinds of manure which are given it; but without manure it has no great strength. The bright tinge is probably given it by the understrata;

strata ; which are, mostly found, under soil of this colour, to be either till, or freestone, of the same appearance.

3dly, Meadow ground, generally covering a light coloured clay, and bearing good crops of coarse hay, with a sole of finer grass under it.

I do not mention certain spots of gravelly soil, covered with short heath, as a species by itself, because this is obviously a ruined soil, bared by floods, or peeled by the slaughter spade, or otherwise robbed of its richness.

There is peat moss in the low part of the parish of different sorts, but mostly light or flowy. There is also a species on the hill tops ; but this article is not sufficient ; we are obliged to the parish of Johnston for a supply, and must frequently have recourse to coal pits at Douglas, distant 36 miles.

The subsoil, in the low grounds, is generally gravel or sand. Among the heights, it is till, rotten whin, or freestone. Small stones mingle in the soil ; but large surface stones are rarely seen.

Produce.—Considerable quantities of crop are made ; but the staple is in short sheep and black cattle. The sheep are ewe and lamb stocks, of the black faced kind, not very heavy. The black cattle, a good deal of the Galloway breed, without horns, and handsome ; but of little use for a dairy, as the milk is insignificant. The object is not milk, but young cattle of a good size and figure. Some cheese is made for sale, but it is of ewe milk ; and this article will probably soon wear out, the trouble, expence, and hurt to the stocks being above the returns of it. Oats are the chief of our grain ; barley next ; then pease. Wheat and beans are only on trial yet. Sown grass is an article of some importance. Turnips are raised on a small scale. But potatoes are planted to a great extent ;

extent; and they are as sure a crop, and as perfect of their kinds, as the soil bears. Flax is only an inferior article, not being sown as a crop. Cabbage is very little tried. We are pestered of late with a species of annual rye grass, which grows well for one year, and then dies out.

The consumption of our cattle stocks at home is inconsiderable, in comparison with what is sold; most of the fat used in the parish being brought in from other places. Of late, however, there is a method creeping in, of fattening aged ewes on turnip, which seems to answer well. With respect to crops, a great proportion of them is consumed at home. And the farmers depend upon their young cattle and their barley, together with most of their sown hay, and whatever quantity they can sell of oats or oatmeal, to make up their rents and pay expence of management.

The returns from rich pasture are good. Most of the land inclines to run into white clover, with a mixture of red and yellow; also rib-grass, daisy, and other indigenous plants, which we ought to use in sowing out land, though it is to be regretted that we do not often do our land this justice. There is a species of grass, which appears naturally, mingling with the sown grass, succulent in the stalk, and bearing a light ear like a foxtail; but after a year or two, it disappears, the white clover spreading its knots over the whole soil.

The woods produce very little, though they are really of considerable value. Excellent oaks, ashes, and elms, with a few birches and mountain ashes, cover the declivities of the water courses. We have also a good deal of planted firs, but mostly young for sale. The whole might easily be made to produce 100*l.* a year, permanently. But the principal heritor, out of a liberal view towards the public good, has hitherto spared his valuable woods.

The

The fishings in this parish are hardly worth mentioning, though indeed they are in no degree preserved or attended to. Minerals are, at present, of no account. But there is a great deal of freestone, very accessible; and though inferior in quality at the top, it may improve. We have a great deal of excellent shell marl, which may be opened up at a trifling expence; and every person of observation reckons on these as future articles of importance towards the general produce of the parish. With respect to manufactures, we have nothing to reckon upon except some coarse cloths and linens, to the value of 200l. or from that to 300l. a year, grown, spun, made, and worn, within the parish.

Manures.—Lime is the chief article, at present, under this head. Nothing answers our old ley ground so well. Six carts, of hot shells, containing each 15 flecks of the Winchester bushel, are laid on an acre. The approved way is to scatter it on the surface of old ley ground, and break it next season; the next method is to scatter the lime on the drills, with a green crop, and incorporate it into the soil by the plough and harrows. The former method gives the earliest profit, in rich crops of oats; the other is the best method to ensure good grass after the green fallow, and to leave the soil out, in heart.

Most of the dung goes to the potatoe crop; some is used for turnip, or for barley. We begin to dislike the old practice of spreading dung upon pasture land, and plowing down for oats. On meadow, duly drained, it repays largely.

Composts of lime and earth are only trying yet; but it is easy to see that they will soon become common.

The carriage of the lime (19 miles) is equal to the prime cost; and altogether, an acre costs 3l. to lime it; which is a
heavy

heavy drawback on the value of the lands. When the marle pits are opened up, much will be saved to the parish.

Rotations.—I almost blush to mention these. A favourite piece of convenient land has a great deal of indulgence shewn it, when it is put under the following, viz. after manure, 3 crops of oats; dung and drilled potatoes; nay, twice or thrice cut, and 2 or 3 years pasture. This is severe enough, as potatoes the only meliorating crop in the rotation, are suspected to be an exhausting crop, though they clean the soil. But the greater part of the land, after lime, gives 3 or 4 crops of oats; and is then left out, quite bare of grass, and poor, to stock itself the best way it can. Lime is at present a new manure, and does wonders; but our soil will not stand repetitions of these rotations.

Seed and Returns.—The quantity of oats given to an acre, Annandale measure, is one Linlithgow boll and a half, in seed. The Annandale acre is larger than the Scots acre, in the proportion of 153 to 137, or nearly as 15 to 13. The returns, in oats, average four feeds, or 6 bolls, or 12 Carlisle bushels per acre. Barley frequently fails to return as amply as common bear. Early pease do pretty well. Beans and wheat are scarcely to be considered in another light than as strangers, not yet naturalized. Early white oats are used, and in rich land they do well. On the heights they shake; the straw is inferior fodder, compared with that of the common oats; and they exhaust the soil more; but they divide the labour; and in a moist season they stand better than common oats.

The best changes of seed that we get, are from the Clyde, the Tweed, or the Teviot.

Mode of Cultivation.—Oats being our principal crop, we consume great part of winter and spring in ploughing for them, and getting them into the soil; beginning ploughing, with the cleanest land, to prevent it growing into weeds against the seed-time. Potatoe and turnip land is cross ploughed early in winter, to mellow it, for laying up in drills at the proper season. Pease are sown hot-fur. Summer fallow is not much tried. The plough is Scots; drawn by two horses. Carts, harrows, and all the implements of husbandry, are light.

Weeds.—Land which has been long in cultivation is very foul. Annuals infest it, and destroy the crops; of this kind are gule, wild-kail, day-nettle, charlock, mugwort. To destroy these, we lay out the lands. The annuals disappear directly after; but thistles, knot and quick grass, and crow-foot, remain for two or three seasons, and then disappear also. The lands incline to stock themselves with clovers, daisy, ribwort, and other grasses; and the pasture continues good for years in rich parts of the land; but on dry hilly pastures, fog or moss soon encroaches, destroys the grass, and forces the farmer to break the ground, unless he has the command of water to scatter over it. Whins and broom are also very ordinary intruders in warm dry soil; and rush, in wet grounds.

In these remarks, I allude to land, which is left out without a green fallow; for this operation cleans it well, and the grass seed comes up unmixed.

It is remarked that green-fallow destroys the gule more effectually than red-fallow. We are too indolent in destroying feeding weeds before they shed; and also in laying up root weeds to the frost. It is an ordinary mistake, when land is laid out in sown grass, to be too sparing of pasture seeds,

feeds, (white clover especially,) which is the cause of the land filling with weeds when the hay crops are done out. A similar neglect is committed when oatlands are left out to pasture, for it is very seldom that our farmers are at the trouble of scattering common hay seed on them, as might be easily done, and much to their advantage. These errors are beginning to be seen and owned; the next thing will be to amend them.

Dwelling-houses.—Most of them are thatched; some are roofed with red freestone; some slated. We cannot say that the farm houses are bad; but neither are they intitled to great commendation. Cottagers houses are generally of stone and sod, laid in rows, alternately.

The manse is worn out, and renewing. It was built in 1659, and renewed in 1719. A new and commodious manse is now building, which promises to be more convenient and durable.

Stipend.—Including one chalder, at the legal conversion, the stipend is 72*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* Besides this, the heritors pay an assessment of 40*l.*; and the tenants, a subscription amounting to 15*l.* The whole stipend, ostensibly taken, is 127*l.*; but owing to deficiencies in the subscriptions, it falls short of this amount.

This particular mode of payment arises from peculiar circumstances. The minister found himself under the necessity of retiring from office, reserving for himself 55*l.* out of the stipend. And as it was not augmented, like the neighbouring parishes, the surplus stipend being only about 19*l.* in meal and money, the rest of the stipend for the successor, during the former incumbent's life, was made up by voluntary assessment. The actual payments of stipend to the succe-

for, who does all the ministerial duties, are 66l. exclusive of 100l. merks for communion elements; besides the benefit of the manse and glebe.

Mr Taylor, minister of Wamphray, was deposed soon after the revolution. Mr Gabriel Gullen succeeded him, and afterwards was translated to Drysdale. Since his time, there have been no less than seven ministers; viz. Mr Irvine, Messrs Barclay, senior, and junior, the latter of whom died lately in the ministry of Haddington; Dr Barron, removed to St Andrews; Dr Williamson, removed to Glasgow College; and Mr Donaldson, who retired, and in 1794 was replaced by the present incumbent. A minister of Wamphray, of the name of John Brown, who lived in 1659, has left some writings which are in high estimation here.

The deposition of Mr Taylor was partly founded on a charge of altering the marches of his glebe, and partly on other grounds. He was an enemy to the revolution and to jurant ministers. His temper, as to politics, seems to have been the same with Archbishop Sancroft's; and it had the same issue. Mr Taylor joined the Cameronians, was much followed, and died rich. He was connected with other separatists from the church, M'Millan at Balmaghie, Hepburn at Orr, and Gilchrist at Dunfcore, who formed themselves into a presbytery of Protesters, and drew down an Act and reference of the General Assembly against them in 1715. So strong was Mr Taylor's party, after his deposition, that it was necessary for Mr Johnston, the steward-depute of Annandale, to appear in arms at the church, and open a way to those who preached by authority in his place.

The glebe is not well ascertained; and there does not seem to be any authentic document for defining it, except the copy of a perambulation by the presbytery, sworn to by four men, taken in the lifetime of the above Mr Taylor, and
which

which seems to have served as a rule for the presbytery in his cause. The marches however seem to have been altered since that time; though it is probable there was no legal authority for the alteration. It would not maintain above two cows and their followers.

School.—The teacher does not undertake Latin: but no man can be more attentive, and few are more successful, in so far as he professes. The average number of scholars is 110. The salary is 150 merks Scots; the fees of teaching are about 10l. There is no yard attached to the school. The heritors are handsomely acquiescing in a petition to the court of supply for 50 merks augmentation to the salary; and what will the emoluments amount to when this is granted? This will be very inadequate after all: but the heritors having done this, will be admitted to have done as much as the law can possibly demand of them; and if there be any thing wanting after this, the defect must be in the law itself.

The law is not defective, however, if we attend to the true spirit of it. Statute law fixes a salary; and consuetudinary law settles the fees of teaching. These different sources of emolument, when wisely adjusted, have good effects: the salary engages a respectable teacher; the fees encourage him to be diligent. Such was the constitution which our forefathers planned out for our parochial seminaries; and so long as the law retained its true spirit, the wisdom of this plan was seen in its effects. That spirit is now lost; and instead of it, we have only the dead letter.

I have in view the Act of Endowment, 6to Gul. Let any one take notice of the real value of the merks at that time, and say what proportion they bear now. Did Parliament intend the real value of the merks, for our public teachers, or the nominal value? It would cast dishonour upon the legislature,

lature, to suppose that they intended any thing under the real value of the merks; and this value is best ascertained by turning them into grain. Now, I do not find that Parliament had altered the legal conversion when they passed the above act. From 1561 to 1633, and thereafter, the hundred merks was equivalent to a chalder, in the acts of Parliament: we must therefore be of opinion, that the parochial salaries were intended to be equivalent to from one to two chalders. This was doubtless what the legislature proposed for them. But, unfortunately their salaries were all modified in money, which has fallen in value out of all proportion; and if this had been adverted to, or foreseen, by those who framed the Act of Endowment, it is not merely probable, but morally certain, that they would have ordered the salaries in grain, and not money. May it not be asked, What should hinder an explanatory act, to this purpose, still? A chalder for every hundred merks salary, which our parochial teachers now possess, would restore them, so far as the salary goes, to the enjoyment of those livings, which the Revolution gave, by statute, to their predecessors. It would also restore the wholesome spirit of that law; do justice to a useful order of men, and, through them, to society at large; and contribute essentially to the improvement of youth in sound morals, and in that sort of learning which is both useful and ornamental.

It would then be necessary, only, to regulate the fees of teaching; and a similar rule would determine this also. They ought to be augmented as money falls in value: which would prevent learning from being undervalued, encourage the teacher to assiduity, and stimulate parents and youth to make the most of their time; a real service to all concerned.

It is nonsense to propose getting solid learning at the generality of our parochial schools, at present. The privilege
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of attaining to this, is denied to country parishes; and has become almost exclusively the property of residents in towns or large villages. But, are the youth reared there more virtuous than in the country? Is the fear of God, and a due regard to moral duties, as generally and assiduously inculcated in those crowded seminaries, as it was once in our parochial schools, and would still be, were they on their ancient footing?

A smattering of learning does harm. This, however, is always frequent, in crowded seminaries, where individuals are not closely attended to. If it be found in country schools, it is owing to the cheapness of teaching, or to the teacher himself; and the improvement proposed, or rather the restoration of our parochial schools, would serve essentially to prevent this abuse of learning.

Very few of the parochial schools in this district are legally filled by authority of presbytery; nor is it usual, either for visitors or presbyteries, to inspect them regularly: parents, also, pay them little or no attention: and it is really surprising that, under these circumstances, we have any attentive teachers among us. The youth (who are the spring) being thus neglected, what is to become of the year?—Did any of those lawgivers, who, at the distance of an hundred years ago, made provision for the diffusing of sound learning, without the abuse of it, and of inculcating generally, and with effect, the principles of sacred and civil duties, now descend to visit us, and to enquire into the event of those wise provisions; would he not find the spirit of them gone? He would see every thing else on an improving plan, and all orders in society augmented; but on entering one of our parochial schools, and enquiring after the inspection of youth, I blush to think what sentiments he would form with respect to this boasted age of improvement.

Poor's

Poor's Funds.—The general list contains 20 names; of whom, 12 are regularly supplied, and 8 incidentally. The session distributes the funds of the poor, with a particular regard to the present circumstances of those who share them; and not, as is done elsewhere, in equal portions. The funds arise from the interest of a bond of 47l.; from collections; from fines, and mortcloth money: the whole not amounting to 10l. a-year. But the heritors have given in several handsome donations; the Earl of Hopetoun, principal heritor, has also given money apart from the public assessments; the farmers of the parish turned over a balance that was due them, on account of store meal, to the poor's funds: and, one way or other, the poor have, hitherto, been pretty well attended to. It was much to the honour of the heritors of Wamphray, that though the parish was years without an elder, and without any public collections worth mentioning, the poor were not neglected, as the heritors provided for them. It may also be remarked, that no distinction is made among the poor, except that of their several necessities: dissenters are as equally served, as those who belong to the established church. It were much to be wished, that dissenting congregations would take this burden, or at least some part of it, off the hands of the parochial sessions, and look more attentively to the circumstances of their poor.

Occupation of the People.—Is agriculture the prime of arts? If it be, it will follow, that the people of this parish may all come in for a share in the credit of it. Every mechanic takes the sickle in harvest. The most respectable farmers can not only direct, but *do* every thing necessary about their farms: and when the turn is over, they can appear with credit, either at home or abroad; far above people of the same rank, who pretend to be above these things. Labour is scarce

scarce and dear; and every master must have the art of directing it to good purpose, otherwise he cannot hope to succeed.

Wages.—A man servant, by the half year, from 5*l.* to 6 guineas. If married, he has a house, peats, 52 stone oatmeal, a cow's grass, and from 8*l.* to 10*l.* a-year. A day-labourer, in summer, without victuals, 1*s.* 8*d.* a-day; in winter, 1*s.* 2*d.* A woman servant, for half year, from 2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.* In harvest, people shear for potatoes; 8 shearing days, for the produce of a hundred weight seed potatoes, dunged and dressed by the farmer in his own land: This produce is about 2 carts of new potatoes for 8 days shearing; the highest wages given in any country. Women who shear for money, in harvest, have a guinea for 4 weeks shearing. By the day, in harvest, they get their victuals and 1*s.* or sometimes more. Men, in harvest, get 2*l.* for 4 weeks shearing, when paid in money. In summer, the daily wages for women are less. Hiring *fairs* are much frequented: those who are to hire wear a green sprig in their hat: and it is very seldom that servants will hire in any other place.

Masons and carpenters have 12*s.* a-week; flaters, 15*s.*; taylor, 5*s.* and their victuals. A carter has 3*s.* 6*d.* a-day. A smith is paid by his customers, in coals and oats, jointly.

Amusements.—We have but one general amusement, that of curling on the ice: and the parishioners of Wamphray take much credit to themselves for their superior skill in this engaging exercise. After the play is over, it is usual to make a common hearty meal upon beef and greens, in the nearest public house.

Morals.—I am not disposed to give ill-grounded praise on this important subject, and I hope I shall not unjustly blame: There is, however, too much ground to complain, as to morals, in all places; yet the general turn of the people, in this quarter, is towards sobriety and decency. We have not, at present, a single noted drunkard in this parish. Grossly immoral behaviour is not frequent; and if there be vice, it hides its head as ashamed. Perhaps the common bane of country parishes, a censorious spirit, is not altogether wanting in Wamphray; but it is not general: the generality of the people are industrious, and the *idle* are commonly in the list of the censorious.

We look in vain for innocence, in any society. It will be granted, however, that virtuous men are more frequent in the walks of agriculture, than any where else: and when any fatality leads a people to neglect and undervalue agriculture, a door is opened to every vice and calamity that can be named. So it fell out, once and again, in Rome. ‘*Deserto agrorum cultu, sequitur annus, multiplici clade ac periculo insignis, seditionibus, fame, unum abfuit, externum bellum: quo, si aggravatæ res essent, vix ope Deorum omnium, res fitti potuisset.*’ *Liv.*—Whence do we look for those dreadful commotions which break in upon society, and overturn all that experience and order have established in it? Whence is that *civium ardor prava jubentium*, which tramples upon law, disregards justice, and drowns the cry of injured innocence, with the rude clamours of rooted prejudices? It is well known, that generally speaking, these things originate in cities, among the vicious, the profane, the dissipated, and chiefly among those who have learnt the art of casting off the fear of God. The country may be misled; but it is not naturally disposed to wickedness; and good morals thrive better in the field than in
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the city. It is wise in any government to encourage agriculture: it adds to our domestic resources and independence, and it strengthens our sinews of war. But Government has now become so weighty and so intricate, that it requires an unusual degree of magnanimity to overlook established prejudices, and to restore the culture of the soil, and of the mind, husbandry, and education, those most important arts, to the notice and honour to which they are justly intitled.

Dissenters.—The relief congregation, who have a church and minister in this parish, is composed of some out of each of the ten or twelve parishes next to us. We have a few Antiburghers; and two or three Cameronians, the oldest sect of the Seceders. I regret that party spirit and prejudices have not yet disappeared. Were these to cease, a dissenting society might be of service to the church and receive service from her; they might be mutually instrumental ‘to provoke to love and to good works.’ Let us be candid and forbearing. The apostles themselves were not always unanimous on certain points connected with religion. We see but little of that great deep into which revelation has opened our view; and of that little, part is obscured by mists of our own raising.

Public Spirit.—It is with pleasure the writer of these remarks has uniformly observed the parish of Wamphray forward to support whatever they approved of. The storing of oatmeal for the use of the poor, when there was a threatening of a scarcity, was liberally promoted here. The first voluntary offer of carriages, to forward military equipages, in this district was in Wamphray. A contribution was made by this parish, in behalf of foreign missions, and lodged with the treasurer of the Missionary Society in London. A decent subscription was made of late in aid of Government. And

next to the parish of Moffat, which has taken an honourable and distinguished lead in the business, Wamphray has furnished the greatest number of volunteers for the defence of the country. Let it be remarked, as has been done in a previous account of this parish, written by an able and impartial hand, that the heritors and farmers are a liberal and intelligent class of men, who have the good sense to see that their own interest and prosperity are interwoven with that of their country.

Miscellaneous Table.

Inhabited houses	-	74	Schoolmaster	-	1
Population, 7 years ago	487		In the army	-	3
Population in 1798	482		Shopkeepers	-	2
Of these, males	-	221	Innkeepers	-	2
— females	-	261	Cattle dealers	-	2
Under 10 years of age	125		Joiners	-	6
From 10 to 20	-	84	Weavers	-	9
From 20 to 50	-	217	Blacksmiths	-	2
From 50 to 70	-	43	Tailors	-	5
Above 70	-	18	Shoemakers	-	0
Village residents	69		Mason	-	1
Residing heritors	-	2	Miller	-	1
Non-residing heritors	4		Labourers	-	12
Justice of peace	-	1	Carters	-	2
Half-pay officer	-	1	Huntsman	-	1
Volunteer officer	-	1	Male farm-servants (not including the farmers children) hired,	-	40
Farmers above 50l. rent	9		New houses built in 1798	8	
Farmers under 50l. rent	16		Old houses pulled down	2	
Militiamen liable to be called	4		Uninhabited houses	0	
Volunteers for defence	28		Ploughs	-	38
Physicians, midwives	0				
Excise officer	-	0			

Carts

Carts	-	-	55	Farmers who feed ewes on		
3-horse or 4-horse ploughs	5			turnip	-	2
2-horse ploughs	-	33		Wheat farmer	-	1
Small's or English ploughs	4			Work horses	-	84
Farmers who raise turnip	8			Galloways	-	5

The heritors are the Earl of Hopetoun, Captain William Hope, Major Wight, Mr Sharpe, Mr Carruthers of Mill-houses, and Mr Anderson of Stenrieshill. This last is the only residing magistrate.

Valued rent of the parish in merks - M. 4203

Real rent, in sterling money, above - L. 1900

Of which, spent out of the parish - 1400

25 farms; average rent 77l.; total rent 1920l.; sheep in 10 of these;—14½ square miles; 6300 Annandale acres; average 253 acres; rent per acre, 6s.; in crop 734 acres; hay 90 acres; moss 350; woods 130; pasture 5000; proportion of the stocking—600 sheep, to 61 black cattle, and to 9 horses. The rent for all these 190l. being 10th part stock and rent.

Cropping and Produce Table.

Crops.	Acres.	Value per acre in 1798.	Total value.
Oats	420	- L. 5 : 10 -	L. 2310
Barley	48	- 6 -	288
Wheat	7	- 12 -	84
Sown grafs	70	- 3 -	210
Natural hay	90	- 2 -	180
Potatoes	48	- 10 -	480
Turnips	20	- 6 : 6 -	126
Pease or beans	28	- 5 -	140
Flax	3	- 6 -	18

Total in crop 734 acres, Valued at L. 3836

Cattle

Cattle Table.

Milk cows	204	average value, 7l.	-	L. 1428
Followers, young	408	———— 3l.	-	1224
Sheep	6000	———— 13l. the score		3900
Horses	89	———— at 8l.	-	712
Swine	100	———— at 3l.	-	300
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Total, beasts	6801	Average total value		L. 7564

It is difficult to make out a state of the average actual returns of the parish ; so much depends upon the circumstances of the times, and of the farmer's family, on his prudence and attention, and on the size of his farm, and the condition of it, as to improvement, that to make out a table of this sort is to found much upon uncertainty. Attention to general facts and circumstances, may, however, be useful to give one an average idea of farm charges, returns, and produce. Two methods may be used for computing the returns from a farm in Wamphray, according to the present rates of things and mode of management. The first is the most comprehensive method, viz.

Debit the farm with

Men's labour, including all that labour on it, at 22l. each, board and wages.

Women, at 15l. each, do. do.

Boys at 12l. do. do.

Keeping of each horse at 12l.

Harness and shoeing of each at 1l. 1s.

Farm utensils, per year, for 70l. rent, 5l.

Incidental labour and charges on ditto, 3l.

10 per cent. on all stocks and utensils, to cover risk and wear.

Rent of the farm.

Twice a servant's board and wages, as allowance to the farmer.

Shearers

Shearers in harvest, board and wages.

All taxations on horses and carts and dogs.

Costs of lime for improving.

Credit the farm by

Oats, value per acre.—Barley, do.—Sown hay, do.—Potatoes, do.—Pease, do.—Turnip, do.—Flax.—Lambs wool fold.—Old sheep, do.—Cattle fold, cheese, butter, and value of the milk.—Swine fold or used.

The balance should be on the debit side, and will shew the profit on the farm. Board wages being allowed the work people, every return should be computed. Only natural hay is not counted, because the cattle use it, and no allowance is made for their keeping. In valuing the oats, regard should be had to what they are worth, standing; and the white fodder indemnifies future trouble.

The other method of computation proceeds upon what is stated page 447, viz. that the farmers depend upon their young cattle and their barley, together with most of their sown hay, and whatever oats or oatmeal they can spare, to make up their rents, and pay expence of management. This method allows a charge upon all money advanced, but gives no allowance for board, nor for keeping of horses or cattle. It admits all kinds of family expences, in so far as the family assist in the management of the farm, and gives the per centage, not only on stock and utensils, but upon household furniture; including an allowance to the farmer, as double wages; but no board; incidental labour, and charges for lime being also computed. If there be any turnips sold, or any potatoes, or swine, these go to the other side with the returns of the cattle, wool, and crop.

The result in this method may serve to check and prove the other method. As they are both founded in the minute observation

observation of facts, they cannot, if accurately adhered to, differ widely.

Let it also be remarked, that the actual value of the lands does not certainly appear by these computations; only the present value is shewn, according to the method of farming that obtains, anno 1798. Another mode of farming, and other times, may occasion a total alteration. When this occurs, it will be curious to look back, and trace the modes of 1798.

It will be seen that the charges of farming are very heavy in this parish, and the expence of manure a heavy drawback on the lands. On the other hand, the lands admit of great improvement; and as the soil is superior in quality, no expence laid out in improving is thrown away. In the course of time, there is no doubt that the lands in Wamphray will rise considerably in their value. At least a thousand acres more of good soil will be improved; and it is hoped the method of exhausting white crops will give place to a better, and good pasture surface become an object to all concerned.

The following table will be, on a medium, correct:

Gross produce of all the cropped lands, per annum	L.3836
Gross produce of sheep, wool, cattle, milk, swine	2875
Gross total produce	L.6711
Charges of management, including board, wages, &c.	L.2868
Real rent of all the parish, anno 1798	- - 1920
The per centage on 9374l. subject in stock, &c. at 10	937
For public burdens, profits, domestic outlays, &c.	986
	<hr/> L.6711

Actual

Actual returns from sheep, wool, cattle, &c.	-	L.2625
Actual returns for hay, oats, barley, potatoes, &c.		2118
		<hr/>
Total actual returns		L.4743
		6711
		<hr/>

Consumpt of cattle, milk, sheep, oats, meal, &c. L.1968

Proportion of family consumpt, to each inhabited house,
average - - - - L.26:10

Lying out in cattle stocks, all kinds, value - L.7564

Lying out in farm utensils and furniture, in 25 farms 1810

Total lying out on the farms - - L.9374

Proportion of subject sunk in farming to the rent, near-
ly as - - - - 5 to 1

Proportion of actual returns, yearly, to the rent, nearly 5 to 2

Proportion of gross produce, to the rent, nearly 7 to 2

Proportion of gross produce, to the yearly actual re-
turns, as - - - - 7 to 5

Proportion of charges of management, to the rent,
nearly as - - - - 3 to 2

Proportion of consumpt in the parish, to the rent,
nearly equal.

Proportion of returns on sheep, wool, and cattle, to
the whole charge of management over the parish,
nearly equal.

Gross returns of cropped lands, greater than those of
sheep, &c. as - - - - 3 to 2

Actual returns of cropped lands, less than those of
sheep, &c. as - - - - 4 to 5

This last circumstance arises from the heavy charges of crop
farms.

Advantages and Disadvantages.—The road from Glasgow to Carlisle runs through the parish of Wamphray, and is of essential service to it. The vicinity of English markets is convenient for disposing of cattle and sheep. The character of the people, which is favourable to industry and economy, and the nature of the soil, which is almost every where good and kindly, up to the hill tops, together with the warm favourable exposure, are all in favour of the parish. What benefits may be reaped from the marle and freestone, time only can determine. We have two threshing mills in the parish; one going by water, the other moved by horses. When these useful machines can be constructed at such a moderate expence, as to be within the farmer's reach, the advantage will be very great. A better sort of milk cattle would certainly be essentially useful; and perhaps it would be advantageous on some farms to alter the sheep stock, and introduce a kind having better wool. Quarries of whinstone might probably be got in the hills, for fences against sheep; as most of the hedges are almost destroyed by the trespasses of cattle, and the labour of upholding any other fence than a stone dyke is much against it. A few years will operate a change in most of these particulars. It has hitherto been much for the advantage of this parish that great part of it was in the hands of the Earl of Hopeton. When his Lordship shall think proper to dispose of his valuable estate here, there is not one tenant on his lands that will be out of mourning.

The great drawbacks, are the distance from the lime and coals; the scarcity of good peat; and dearth and difficulty of getting labourers and servants. I may add the want of a good flax mill, to encourage the growth of that article. But what people are in possession of every advantage? We have enough, if we improve it, and are duly thankful to the Author of all our comforts.

Remarks

*Remarks concerning the formation of a NAVIGABLE
CANAL, betwixt Perth and Lochern.*

June, 1793.

IT is proposed to open a communication, by water, through the inland parts of Perthshire, for a tract of about 40 miles, commencing at the town of Perth and firth of Tay, and extending westward by Crieff and Comrie to Lochern. A canal of about 4 feet deep, and 8 feet broad, is supposed sufficient for this purpose. The course of it, in general, could be directed through a level country; inasmuch, that for a space of 12 or 14 miles no lock would be necessary. Still the expence of such an undertaking must be considerable; and might amount to about 30,000*l*.

Before expecting a matter of this magnitude to be patronised, either by the heritors in the immediate vicinity of the canal, or by the public at large, it is necessary to exhibit a view of some of these advantages which would naturally result from the completion of it: with that design, what follows is submitted.

That part of Perthshire called Strathern, through which the canal would run, is a beautiful and fertile country, capable of great improvement. It is surrounded with high lands and glens, which are extremely populous. The soil, in some parts, is well adapted for raising grain, but, in general, peculiarly fitted for raising green crops. It is naturally a wooded country, and well watered with rivers from the surrounding hills and lakes. All kinds of timber, particularly fir, larch, oak and ash, grow to great perfection. The people are sober and industrious.

Under these circumstances, it is certainly a matter of great moment to open a communication, by means of good roads

and water carriage, to the inland parts of the county. This is the great object of the proposed canal.

It is intended, moreover, that the canal should be joined at Comrie by a turnpike road, leading from Stirling, by Dunblane and Glenlíchorn, and through Glenlednick, to Loch-Tay side: so that, in this manner, a complete communication would be opened through a country of some hundred miles of extent, containing upwards of 100,000 people.

When it is considered that a tract of country so extensive, and so populous, is now only in the dawn of improvement; it seems obvious, that the intercourse to and from it, which is at present considerable, must increase in such proportion, as to produce a certainty of the most ample returns for such sums as may be laid out in establishing the communications proposed.

When, moreover, the immense advantages of water carriage are attended to; the convenience and facility thereby acquired, inasmuch, that, by means of a single horse, one hundred times the quantity can be conveyed by water as by land; and that, in the different commercial countries of Europe, canals have been found by experience to be one of the great means of their prosperity; it is believed no doubt can remain of the utility of the proposed undertaking.

Articles of Importation.—These would consist of coals, lime, * iron, hard wares, tar, butter, flax, flax seed, foreign timber, porter; bear, flour, meal, and grain of every kind; broad cloths; wines, sugars, teas, and other grocery goods to a great amount.

Articles

* *Nota.* The average price of the best English coals at Perth, during the summer, is from 3s. to 3s. 6d. per boll of 40 stone Dutch weight, or about 1d. per stone; at Crieff and Comrie, from 2d. to 3d. per stone, or from 5s. 4d. to 6s. per boll.

The average price of the best English lime shells, at Perth, is from 1s. 10d. to 2s. per boll; at Crieff and Comrie, from 2s. 9d. to 3s. per boll of the lowest quality.

Articles of Export:—Consisting of oak timber, hoops, bark, forest timber of all kinds, wool, woollen cloths, linen and linen yarn, slate, potatoes, skins, cheese, whisky, &c.

It may be further observed, that as the highland grass farms are greatly over-burdened with tenants, in the proportion perhaps of about one to fifteen: so, one of the greatest improvements in that part of the country would be, to ease these farms of a number of the present possessors, and settle them in the straths or valleys, by erecting villages.

The inland parts of Perthshire, should the proposed undertaking be accomplished, seem particularly adapted for the settlement of villagers; being at the southern extremity of the North Highlands; having great command of water-falls, and an immense supply of wool: so that the woollen manufactures, in particular, might be conducted there with singular advantage.

N. B. It is believed, that a canal from Perth to Crieff, a distance of less than 20 miles, almost upon a dead level, which might be accomplished at an expence of about 10,000*l.* would answer all the above valuable purposes.

Nov. 1798.

Instructions for a Survey of the Perthshire Canal.

You are desired to prepare a survey, plan, and estimate of a navigable canal, from 4 to 5 feet deep, and from 8 to 10 broad, with convenient passing places upon the sides, along the following lines, viz.

1st, From the town of Crieff, or its vicinity eastward, to the Frith of Tay, keeping as near the town of Perth as possible.

2d, From the vicinity of the town of Crieff eastward, to the village of Comrie or its neighbourhood.

3d,

3d, From Comrie eastward to Lochern:

4th, From the town of Crieff southward, passing near Auchterarder, Gleneagles, and Blairngone, and from thence terminating by the Strath of the Devon in the Frith of Forth, or any other more eligible direction betwixt Crieff and the Frith of Forth.

Mention separately the expence of the different locks, and the places where these would be needed; and in general give separate statements of every extraordinary expence, such as cutting rocks, erecting aqueduct bridges, distinguishing betwixt wright work and mason work, &c.

Report particularly with regard to the mode and certainty of a constant supply of water for the canal in all its parts.

Mention also the different parishes through which the canal would run.

Should the undertaking exceed at the utmost 30,000*l.* it will be given up as being more costly than beneficial. Therefore, if after inspecting the grounds, and ascertaining the levels, any of the above mentioned directions appear impracticable, or even very expensive, you are desired to report your opinion; and the information you may collect concerning these lines, or any parts thereof, before proceeding further, in a more particular survey.

In general, report every particular coming within your observation necessary to be known by the directors of the present undertaking, as in any degree connected therewith.

The private opinions or suggestions of no individual are to be attended to in making this survey; and you are always to adopt that line which to the best of your judgment is most calculated for public utility.

Drawings of the canal in its different courses, and some of the principal works attending it, must be engraved.

TABLE

T A B L E
OF THE
REAL AND VALUED RENT
OF
SCOTLAND,
BY COUNTIES.

	Real rent, Sterling.		Valued rent, Scotch.
Aberdeen, -	L. 135,652	-	L. 235,665 8 11
Air, -	165,800	-	191,605 0 7
Argyle, -	112,752	-	149,595 10 0
Banff, -	43,490	-	79,200 0 0
Berwick, -	118,800	-	178,365 7 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bute and Arran,	9,000	-	15,022 13 8
Caithness, -	19,960	-	37,256 2 10
Clackmannan, -	14,200	-	26,482 10 10
Cromarty, -	7,000	-	12,897 2 8
Dumfries, -	109,700	-	158,627 10 0
Dunbarton, -	34,250	-	33,327 19 0
Edinburgh, -	151,500	-	191,054 3 9
Elgin, -	41,420	-	65,603 0 5
Fife, -	174,900	-	362,584 7 5
Forfar, -	122,000	-	171,636 0 0
Haddington, -	86,960	-	168,878 5 10
Inverness, -	70,530	-	73,188 9 0
Kincardine, -	38,500	-	74,921 1 4
Kinross, -	12,710	-	20,192 11 2
Kirkcudbright,	96,730	-	114,571 19 3
Lanark, -	127,000	-	162,118 16 10
Linlithgow, -	44,330	-	74,931 19 2
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	1,737,184		2,597,725 19 11 $\frac{1}{2}$

Nairn,

Brought over,	1,737,184	-	2,597,725	19	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Nairn, - -	8,000	-	15,162	10	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Orkney and Zetland,	18,500	-	56,551	9	1
Peebles, -	29,820	-	51,937	13	10
Perth, -	230,900	-	339,818	5	8
Renfrew, -	63,950	-	68,076	15	2
Rofs, - -	38,711	-	75,040	10	3
Roxburgh, -	102,350	-	315,594	14	6
Sélkirk, -	26,320	-	80,307	15	6
Stirling, -	86,720	-	108,518	8	9
Sutherland, -	9,754	-	26,193	9	9
Wigton, -	53,890	-	67,646	17	0

Total, L. 2,406,099 Total, L. 3,802,574 10 5
or, sterling, L. 316,881 4 2 $\frac{1}{2}$

The foregoing table was drawn up on the principles mentioned in the Appendix to vol. xx. page 87, note; namely, by ascertaining the proportion the real rent bore to the valued rent in the different parishes, from whence returns of these particulars were made, and extending that rate of proportion to the total valuation of each county. In two or three counties, however, a deviation was made from that general rule of computation, owing to peculiar circumstances affecting these districts. As the real rent of several parishes has considerably increased since the statistical accounts of them were drawn up, the total rental of Scotland (exclusive of houses) must now exceed - - - L. 2,500,000

Add rent of houses, at the moderate computation

of 25s. to each family, and estimating the number

of families in Scotland at 350,000,

437,500

Total, L. 2,937,500

or, in round numbers, three millions sterling.

In perusing the foregoing table, it is impossible to avoid remarking the different proportions the real rent bears to the valued rent in different counties; a circumstance owing to the valuation of some counties having been taken at later periods than that of others; to improvements in agriculture; and to the introduction of manufactures. In the manufacturing county of Dunbarton the real rent is more than twelve times, and of Renfrew more than eleven times the valued rent, while in the pastoral counties of Roxburgh and Selkirk, the real rent is not much above four times the valued rent. But a discussion of these particulars belongs properly to the Analysis of the Statistical Account of Scotland, which the Author hopes he will have leisure to complete in the course of the present year.

In the tables of the population of Scotland, Vol. xx, p. 599, the number of inhabitants in Dumfries parish was by mistake stated at 5600, the number in the town, instead of 7000; the number in town and country. The state of Dumfriesshire with respect to population will therefore stand thus:

Population in 1755,	-	41,913
<hr/> 1790—8,		53,729
Increase,	-	11,816

And of Scotland,

Population in 1755,		1,265,380
<hr/> 1790—8,		1,527,892
Increase,	-	262,512

While these sheets were in the press, a letter was received from the Rev. Mr Alexander Stewart, the very intelligent minister of Moulin, dated 21. January 1799, stating, that “ by an exact survey of the population of the parish, finish-

“ ed a few days ago, the total amount of souls is 1949.
 “ This is exactly 200 more than the population in September 1791, when the former return was made.” So considerable an increase, in a remote Highland parish, warrants the inference that the population of Scotland has in like manner greatly increased since the returns of most of the other parishes were made.

A table of the population of the principal towns of Scotland is subjoined.

*Population of the Towns of Scotland, containing 300
 Souls and upwards.*

Edinburgh, 68,045	} 81,286	Dalkeith, about	4,100
Leith, 13,241		Port Glasgow,	4,036
Glasgow, -	64,743	Musselburgh,	4,015
Dundee, -	22,500	Brechin, about	4,000
Aberdeen, -	20,067	Falkirk, -	3,892
Paisley, -	19,903	Forfar, -	3,800
Perth & Bridgend, about	19,500	Hamilton, -	3,601
Greenock, -	15,000	Kelso, -	3,557
Dumfries & Bridgend,	6,902	Irvine, about	3,500
Kilmarnock, -	5,670	St Ninians, about	3,500
Air, -	5,560	Cupar Fife, -	3,135
Montrose, -	5,194	Alloa, -	3,132
Dunfermline,	5,192	Stewarton, about	3,000
Arbroath, -	5,183	Elgin, -	2,920
Inverness, -	5,107	Banff, -	2,860
Stirling, -	5,000	Borrowstounness,	2,613
Campbelltown, about	5,000	Rothsay, -	2,607
Kirkcaldy and Linkton,	4,267	Haddington,	2,567
		Peterhead,	

Peterhead, -	2,550	Prestonpans,	1,492
St Andrews,	2,519	Peebles, -	1,480
Forres, -	2,398	Cromarty, -	1,457
Saltcoats, -	2,325	Kinross, -	1,437
Dunfe, -	2,324	Bathgate, -	1,400
Hawick, -	2,320	Tranent, -	1,380
Linlithgow, -	2,282	Catrine, -	1,350
Lanark, -	2,260	Stromness, -	1,344
Pathhead, -	2,089	Inverkeithing,	1,330
Crieff, -	2,071	Kilwinning,	1,260
Kirkwall, -	2,000	Crail, -	1,236
Dunbar, about	2,000	Kilsyth, -	1,202
Huntly, about	2,000	Dunblane, about	1,200
Jedburgh, -	2,000	Govan, about	1,200
Dunbarton, -	1,850	Tain, above	1,200
Airdrie, -	1,762	Torryburn, about	1,200
Beith, -	1,754	Moffat, about	1,200
Dyfart, -	1,736	Renton, about	1,200
Kirkcudbright,	1,641	Maryburgh, co. Inver-	
Rutherglen,	1,631	ness, & Fortwilliam,	1,200
Annan, -	1,620	Balfron, -	1,181
Thurso, -	1,612	Coldstream, -	1,162
Strathaven,	1,610	Gatchouse of Fleet,	1,150
Cupar Angus	1,604	Charlestown and Lime-	
Stranraer, -	1,602	kilns, -	1,145
Kilbarchan,	1,584	Pittenweem,	1,137
Kirriemuir, -	1,584	Auchtermuchty,	1,134
Newburgh, -	1,552	Kinghorn, -	1,118
Kirkintilloch,	1,536	Lochwinnoch,	1,114
New Lanark,	1,519	Newton Stewart,	1,100
Langholm, above	1,500	Nairn, -	1,100
Kincardine, about	1,500	Dunkeld, -	1,086
Melrose, about	1,500	New Keith, -	1,075
	3 0 2	Stonehaven,	

Stonehaven, -	1,072	Eyemouth, about	800
Culrofs, -	1,069	Old Cumnock,	787
Inveraray, -	1,063	Old Meldrum, -	783
Alyth, -	1,060	Wester Wemyfs,	769
Wigton, -	1,032	Stornoway, -	760
Johnshaven,	1,019	Briansford, -	758
Stevenston, -	1,019	Whithorn, -	756
Renfrew, -	1,013	Gilmerton, -	755
Girvan, -	1,012	Dingwall, -	745
Fraferburgh,	1,000	Ceres, - -	740
Mauchlin, -	1,000	Coldingham, -	718
Newmills, about	1,000	Ferry Parton Craig,	704
Maybole, about	1,000	Turreff, -	701
Portsoy, about	1,000	Airth, about	700
Lauder, about	1,000	Castle Douglas, about	700
Wick, about	1,000	Lochmaben, -	700
Callander, -	1,000	North Berwick,	700
Burntisland, about	1,000	Auchterarder, about	700
Selkirk, -	1,000	Anstruther Easter, about	700
Sanguhar, about	1,000	Glenluce, about	700
Leadhills, -	970	Douglas, -	684
Wallaceton, -	960	Clackmannan, -	639
Doune, - -	939	Longforgan, -	630
Falkland, -	937	Thornhill, -	626
Fochabers, -	935	Kennoway, about	620
Lerwick, -	903	Chirnside, -	609
Lauriston, -	858	Bervie, - -	607
Aberdour, -	840	Buckhaven, -	601
Errol, -	828	Ormiston, about	600
Dalry, - -	814	Garmouth, -	600
Leslie, - -	806	Greenlaw, about	600
Scone, about	800	New Cumnock, about	600
Cullen, about	800	Macduff, about	600

Alva,

Alva, about	-	600	Cockenzie & Port Seton	430
Biggar,	-	589	Blairgowrie,	- 425
Oban,	-	586	Grangemouth,	410
Galashiels,	-	581	Cambusnethan,	409
Galfon,	-	573	Cumineftoun,	- 404
Camelon,	-	568	Muthil,	- 400
Mid Calder,	-	562	Buckie,	- 400
Easter Wemyfs,		557	Gargunnock,	- 400
Creetown,	-	551	Garvock, about	400
Ayton,	-	529	Duff, about	- 400
East Kilbride,		524	Inverury, about	400
Blantyre,	-	520	New Galloway, about	400
Kilmaurs,	-	514	Ely, about	- 400
Portpatrick,	-	512	Torphichen, about	400
Queensferry,	-	505	Isle of Whithorn,	396
Largs,	-	502	Innerleithen,	388
Bucklivie, about		500	Athelfstaneford,	387
Stanley, about		500	Aberlady,	- 386
Damelington, about		500	Kippen,	- 380
Glamis,	-	500	Seaton,	- 378
Laurencekirk,	-	500	Riccartoun,	- 372
Carnwath,	-	500	Inchture,	- 360
Whiteburn, about		500	Colinfsburgh,	- 357
Dornoch,	-	500	Swinton,	- 357
Yetholm,	-	490	Linton,	- 351
Freuchie,	-	476	Earlsferry,	- 350
Neifton,	-	472	Cramond,	- 343
Tarbolton,	-	450	Auchinleck,	- 340
Garlieston,	-	450	Newtown of Newmill,	330
Chanonry,	-	445	Thornhill,	- 325
Barhead,	-	439	Anstruther Wester,	324
Galaton,	-	432	Methil,	- 314

North

North Ferry, -	312	Balantrae, -	300
Kirk Yetholm, -	305	Bothwell, about	300
Tobermorey, -	300	Golfpy, -	300
Kilbirnie, -	300	Leffludden, -	300
Derval, about -	300		
			<hr/>
Total,			545,725

which deducted from 1,527,892, the total number of inhabitants in Scotland, (See page 473,) leaves 982,167. But it is to be observed, that several considerable towns and villages are omitted in the above list, the number of inhabitants in them not having been specified in the statistical returns. Adding 100,000 more for the population of these towns and villages, makes a total of 645,725, consequently there remains 882,167 inhabitants in the country, in hamlets, and in villages, containing less than 300 souls.

Hints,

Hints, tending to prove, That the most celebrated Universities established on the Continent, and consequently the revival of learning, in modern Europe, originated from the natives of Scotland.

It would require very extensive and minute enquiries, completely to ascertain so curious and interesting a fact. But the more the subject is enquired into, the more evident it will appear. It can hardly be questioned, that the University of Paris, one of the most ancient and celebrated in Europe, was founded by Scotchmen; and that the Scots, in consequence thereof, enjoyed privileges, greater than those of any other nation, or even than the natives of Picardy and Normandy, though feudal subjects to the monarchy of France.

I understand that some information may be found regarding our Scotch Universities in Denina's (l'Abate,) *Vicende della Letteratura*.

Müllers *Geschichte der Schweiz*, (Miller of Vienna's History of Switzerland) originally published at Hesse-Cassel, where the author was librarian; and finished at Vienna, six years ago; contains additional information upon the subject. The history is much esteemed over Germany and France. It is in 6 vols. 8vo, and a translation into French was mentioned, and a critique inserted in Millin's *Encyclopedique*, An. V, and in Roderer's and Coranzez's *Journal de Paris*, as well as their *Tableau Oeconomique* of 1797. In the 2d. volume of Miller's history, are remarkable passages, with notes subjoined, respecting the Swiss universities, and more particularly that of Schaffhausen, on the banks of the Rhine. Miller quotes some books belonging to the Augustine and Jesuit colleges there, as proofs, that the university of Schaffhausen,

haufen, as well as most of those in Switzerland, Germany, and Franche Comté, together with the monasteries and other religious establishments, were founded by Scotchmen, or the élèves of Scotchmen. He mentions the traditions respecting Columba, and the celebrated feminary of I-Colmkill.

In Schmid's *Geschichte der Deutschen* (Smith of Vienna's history of the Germans) are some remarkable pieces of information to the same effect, though not so particular or accurate as Miller's.

It is to be hoped, that some spirited enquirer, aided by these hints, will be enabled to prove in a satisfactory manner, a fact so honourable to North Britain, and which fortunately rests more on foreign than domestic authority, and consequently is the less to be questioned.

GENERAL

APPENDIX.

STATISTICAL ACCOUNT

OF THE

UNIVERSITIES OF SCOTLAND.

NUMBER I.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.

Transmitted by PROFESSOR G. JARDINE, *in the Name of the*
PRINCIPAL and PROFESSORS of the UNIVERSITY.

INTRODUCTION.

TO give a distinct account of the University of Glasgow, it is necessary to distinguish two periods of its existence, in which its constitution and appearance were extremely different ;—the period before the reformation from Popery, and that which followed it ; to which may be subjoined, the present state of the University, with such alterations, in the mode of conducting education, as the improvements in literature, and the state of society, have suggested.

VOL. ULT.

A

I. HISTORY.

I. HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY BEFORE THE REFORMATION.

Origin.—At the request of King JAMES II. Pope NICOLAS V. granted a Bull, constituting a “*studium generale, tam in theologia, et in jure canonum et civili, quam in artibus, et in quacunque licita facultate,*” to continue in all time to come in the city of Glasgow; as being a notable place, and fit for the purpose, by the temperature of the air, and the plenty of all kinds of provisions for human life: and, by his apostolical authority, ordained, That its doctors, masters, readers, and students shall enjoy all the privileges, liberties, honours, exemptions, and immunities granted to the *studium generale* of his city of BONONIA. He likewise appointed WILLIAM TURNBULL, then bishop of Glasgow, and his successors in that see, to be the rectors, called chancellors, of the said *studium*; and to have the same authority over the doctors, masters, and scholars, as the rectors have in the *Studium Bononiense*.—This Bull is dated at Rome the 7th of the month of January 1450, and the fourth year of his pontificate.

Establishment.—By the care of the bishop and his chapter, a body of statutes was prepared, and an university established, in the year 1451: consisting, besides the chancellor, of a rector, doctors, and masters of the four faculties, who had taken their degrees in other universities; and students, who, after a course of study and examination, prescribed by their several faculties, might be promoted to academical degrees. —That this institution might open with the greater celebrity, the bishop had procured and published a Bull from the Pope, granting an *universal indulgence* to all faithful Christians, who should visit the cathedral church of Glasgow, in the year 1451.—We have

have no account of the solemnity and ceremony of the first establishment ; but it appears that DAVID CADZOW, licentiate in canon-law, and canon of Glasgow, was the first rector, (probably appointed by the bishop), and that he was, by election, continued in 1452. There are more than 100 members mentioned, as incorporated by him in these two years ; and most of them not young men, but secular or regular ecclesiastics, canons, rectors, vicars, and presbyters, abbots, priors, and monks. ANDREW STEWART, brother to King James II. was incorporated in 1456, being then sub-dean of Glasgow.

Exemptions.—The clergy would perhaps be the more disposed to attend the University, as, while they were incorporated members, they were, by royal charters and acts of Parliament, exempted from all taxes and public burdens. And Bp. TURNBULL, in the year 1453, ordained, That the beneficed clergy in his diocese, who were regents or students in his university, or willing to study while they were teachable, should, upon asking his licence, be exempted from residence in their cures, providing they took care to have the religious offices duly performed.

Royal Charter.—King JAMES II. in the year 1453, at the request of Bp. Turnbull, granted a charter in favour of the University of Glasgow ; by which the rector, the deans of the faculties, the procurators of the *four nations*, the masters, regents, and scholars, studying in the said University, providing they be not prelates, as well as the beadals, writers, stationers, and parchment-makers, are exempted *ab omnibus tributis, muneribus, exactionibus, taxationibus, collectis, vigiliis, et pedagiis, aliquo modo infra regnum nostrum statuendis et levandis.*

Privileges and Powers.—The same privilege was renewed
by

by subsequent sovereigns, and confirmed by acts of Parliament. And even in taxes of an 8th part of all ecclesiastical livings, for the defence of the nation against an invasion of the English, the clergy in the University of Glasgow, on pleading their privilege, were exempted. This right, of exemption from taxation, was pleaded by this University before the Lords of Council and Session, on the 20th of November 1633, and was sustained.

To these privileges, which the bishops of Glasgow obtained from the Crown and Parliament, they added others which were in their own power, in consequence of the ample civil and criminal jurisdiction, which they possessed within their own diocese; to wit, The privilege of buying, selling, and transporting provisions, within the jurisdiction of the bishop, free of tolls and customs;—the fixing the rent of houses or lodgings, possessed by persons belonging to the university, by a jury, the one half citizens, the other half persons belonging to the University;—the obliging the magistrates of Glasgow, upon their election, to swear that they shall observe, and cause to be observed, the immunities, liberties, and statutes of the University;—the granting the rector the next place, in precedence to the bishop, in all ceremonies and processions;—the granting the privileges of incorporated members to all the servants of the University;—the *self-denying* clause in the chancellor's oath, and which still makes a clause in it,—“ *Se nihil in academia negotiis sine moderatorum et magistrorum assentione tentaturum;*”—and particularly, the granting to the rector, at first, the jurisdiction in all civil and pecuniary questions, respecting members of the University, and in crimes less atrocious; and afterwards, the extending it to all causes and crimes whatsoever:—The power, also, of inflicting ecclesiastical censure, even that of excommunication.

Capital Trial.—There is, however, only one instance on record of a capital trial before the rector's court; and that so late as the year 1670. That year, ROBERT BARTOUNE, a student, was indicted for murder, before Sir WILLIAM FLEEMING, rector; but was acquitted by the jury.

II. ANCIENT CONSTITUTION.

THE constitution of this learned body will appear, by taking a view of the parts into which it was divided, and the powers and obligations of each.

I. *Election of Office-Bearers, &c.*—The whole incorporated members, students, as well as doctors and masters, were divided into four parts, called the *Quatuor Nationes*, according to the place of their nativity. The whole realm of Scotland, and the Isles, was distinguished into four districts, under the names of *Clydesdale*, *Teviotdale*, *Albany*, and *Rothesay*. A meeting of the whole University was annually called, on the day next after St. Crispin's day. This meeting was called the *Congregatio Universitatis*: and, being divided into the four nations, each nation, by itself, chose a procurator and an intrant; and the intrants, meeting by themselves, made choice of a rector and a *deputatus* of each nation, who were assistants and assessors to the rector.

Functions.—The *rector* and *deputati* had several functions.

1st, They were judges in all civil and criminal causes, where in any member of the University was a party. Every member, who either sued or answered before any other court, was guilty of perjury, and incurred the penalty of expulsion. The ecclesiastics in the University, to whatever diocese they belonged, could not be called before their rural deans.

2dly,

2dly, All members were incorporated by the rector and *deputati*, after taking an oath to obey the rector and his successors, to observe the statutes, and preserve the privileges of the University, and not to reveal its secrets to its prejudice, to whatever station they should arrive.

3dly, The rector and *deputati* were the council of the University; who deliberated upon, and digested all matters to be brought before the congregation of doctors and master. And the determinations of the doctors and masters, in such cases, were accounted, in respect of authority, next to the statutes. — Sometimes the *congregatio universitatis* was called occasionally for weighty matters; such as, the making or repealing of statutes, or for an embassy to the higher powers, in name of the University. In such cases, each nation chose three or four *deputati*, who were joined with the rector and his *deputati*, to transact the business committed to them.

Two other office-bearers were chosen annually, on the morrow after St. Crispin's day; — a *burfarius*, who kept the university-purse, and accounted for what he received and expended; and a *promotor*, whose office was to see that the statutes were observed, and to bring delinquents before the rector's court, which had power to enforce the statutes, or to dispense with them in cases that were not declared to be indispensable.

II. *Faculties*. — A second division of the University was into its different *faculties*. The Pope's Bull mentions four by name; to wit, *Theology*, *Canon Law*, *Civil Law*, and *the Arts*. All others are comprehended in a general clause, *et in quacunque licita facultate*. — In the dark ages, the professions of theology, canon and civil law, were called the three learned professions; as being the only professions in which learning was expected or thought necessary. They fitted men for the most honourable and lucrative employments; for the highest dignities

nities in the church; for the councils of kings; for the offices of judges at home; and of ambassadors to foreign courts. To train men to eminence, in these professions, was the first intention of universities. The Arts, under which was comprehended logic, physics, and morals, were considered as a necessary introduction to the learned professions; and, therefore, a necessary part of study in every university.

Their Plan.—The plan, upon which universities were incorporated by the Popes, was very like to that of incorporated towns and boroughs, and perhaps was borrowed from it. The university corresponds to the whole incorporation of the borough: the different faculties to the different companies of the trades, or crafts, into which the borough is divided. A company is a smaller incorporation, subordinate to that of the borough: has the power of choosing its own head, or deacon; and an authority over those who are in the course of being trained to the same craft. The companies, in the incorporated towns, were anciently called *collegia*, or colleges; and the whole incorporation, comprehending all the companies, was called the *universitas* of that town. These names were, by analogy, applied to corporations of the learned professions, and at last appropriated to them.—The word used in Pope NICOLAS' Bull is not *universitas* but *studium generale*; and the university of Bononia he calls *Studium Bononiense*: but, in the charter of King JAMES II. in 1453, we have—*Alma universitas Glasguensis, filia nostra dilecta*.

Government.—The government of a faculty was very similar to that of the University. Each faculty had its own statutes, determining the time of study, and the exercises and examinations requisite for attaining degrees in that faculty. Each chose annually its own dean, its own *bursarius*, and sometimes

times four *deputati* as a council to the dean.—We know very little of the three higher faculties in this University, as there is no record extant, either of their statutes or of their transactions. There are only two memorandums relating to them in the University record. In the first we are told, that, on the 29th of July 1460, the venerable DAVID CADZOW, then rector of the University, began, in the chapter house of the predicant friars, the clergy and masters being there convened, to read the rubric in the canon law, *de vita et honestate clericorum*; and that he continued according to the pleasure of the hearers: and that, on the same day, and in the same place, WILLIAM DE LEVENAX began a title in the civil law. But we are not told how long it pleased the hearers that these lectures should be continued.—In another memorandum we are told, that, on the 23d of March, in the year 1521, ROBERT LILE, bachelor in theology, and prior of the convent of predicant friars in Glasgow, began, *pro forma*, to read a lecture, on the fourth book of the sentences, in the monastery; in presence of the rector, dean of faculty, and the rest of the masters; JOHN ADE, professor of theology, and provincial of the order in Scotland, presiding at the time.

III. *Degrees*.—A third division was according to the academical degree of every member. The highest degree in theology, canon and civil law, was that of *Doctor*; and in the arts, that of *Master*. In some universities, *Masters of Arts* are called *Doctors of Philosophy*; but in most they are distinguished, by the name of *Master*, from those who have the highest degree in any of the higher faculties. A master, however, might be chosen to be rector, or a *deputatus*, as well as doctor.—In all the faculties, there were two degrees by which a man rose to the highest: These were Bachelor and Licentiate. The degree of Licentiate, as well as that of Doctor or Master,

Master, was conferred only by the chancellor or vice-chancellor. The requisites to all the degrees was a certain time of study, and the having heard certain books prelected upon, and certain exercises and examinations : in Bachelors of the Arts 15 years of age, and in Masters 20. It was forbidden, under a heavy penalty, to give any man the title of Master, by word or writing, who had not attained that degree ; and the penalty was still more heavy if any man took it to himself before he had lawfully obtained it.—Academical degrees were considered as of *divine* institution, (probably because instituted by Popes, who were thought to be inspired by the Holy Ghost) ; and, therefore, the chancellor or vice-chancellor conferred them *authoritate divina, et in nomine Patris, Filii, et Spiritûs Sancti*.

IV. *Teaching*.—The last division we shall mention, is into *teachers*, and those who *were taught*.—On this part of the constitution the records, that are extant, leave us much in the dark. We know that four faculties were established ; because, in the oath taken by masters of arts, they swore to promote peace among the four faculties, especially with the faculty of theology. A school of canon law is mentioned as being in disrepair, and to be repaired out of the university purse ; and it appears that degrees were conferred both in that faculty and in theology. —ANDREAS DE GARLIES, *Doctor in Medicinis*, was incorporated in 1469 ; but his name is never mentioned again, nor any thing else that relates to medicine. It is probable, therefore, that there was no faculty of medicine, nor any teaching in that science.—Of the teaching in the faculty of arts we have more full information, from two manuscripts in parchment ;—one of which contains the statutes of that faculty, and its conclusions ; and the other the minutes of its meetings, and transactions, from 1451 to 1509,

and from 1535 to 1555. These manuscripts were transcribed by order of the University in 1769.

Pædagogium.—Some years after the University was founded, many of the students were young men, to whom tuition, as well as teaching, was necessary; and, therefore, provision was made, that they should live and eat in one house, which was called *Pædagogium*, or the College of Arts; where they were taught and governed by certain masters, who were called *Regentes in Artibus*. This college was at first on the south side of the Rotten-row, and probably was a part of the property of the bishop and chapter; but afterwards a tenement was bequeathed, by Lord HAMILTON, for the College of Arts, where the college now stands.

Regents.—At first there were three regents in the arts; to wit, ALEXANDER GEDDES, a Cistercian monk, DUNCAN BUNCH, and WILLIAM ARTHURLIE. Afterwards we find sometimes two, and sometimes but one. It seems to have been the most laborious, and least coveted office in the University. Besides teaching and presiding in disputations *omni die legibili*, they lived within the College, eat at a common table with the students of arts; visited the rooms of the students before 9 at night, when the gates were shut, and at 5 in the morning; and assisted in all examinations for degrees in arts. In the beginning of every session, they proposed to the faculty the books they intended to prelect upon, and had their permission.—There was no salary for this office for many years; and the fees, paid by the hearers, were very small. Twice we find a regent presented by the chancellor, and one of these he turned off for insufficiency in two or three years. Once the faculty turned one out for insufficiency, and put two in his place, with power to choose a third, with the con-

sent of the faculty, if they found it proper. All that had this office, excepting two, continued in it but a few years; and very often one who was not a member of the faculty was called to this office, and made a regent immediately upon being incorporated. From these particulars, it is probable that there was no competition, either for this office, or for the patronage of it; but rather some difficulty to find persons qualified who were willing to take it.

Books.—The books which students were obliged to hear read, before taking the degree of Bachelor, were prescribed by statute. They were, *Porphirius's Introduction to certain books of Aristotle*, and *Petrus Hispanus*. The fee to be paid for hearing each was also fixed.—When they had these, and the other requisites, they were presented by their regent to a meeting of the Faculty, which by statute was appointed to be held annually the day after *All-Saints*.

Examinations.—When they were found to have all the *requisita*, or wanted only such as the faculty saw cause to dispense with, four examiners, called *temptatores*, were elected, to examine them, within ten days. Of the four *temptatores*, two were regents, (when there were two), and the other two non regents. The examiners, after examination, wrote, signed, and sealed their report; which contained not only the name of those whom they found worthy, but their order, according to their merit; and, in this order, the dean conferred the degree of *Bachelor of Arts*.—The examiners, when they were chosen, took an oath to make a faithful report, and not to reveal the secrets of the examination. The candidates were also sworn not to reveal the secrets of the examination; nor to show any resentment, by word or deed, against any fellow-candidate, by whom they had been refuted in the course of
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the examination.—The examination for the degrees of *Licentiate* and of *Master* was carried on in the same way.

Obligation.—In the oath taken by one who took the degree of *Master*, he came under an obligation *de leſtura ad biennium*; but this, which implied not only his continuing his studies in the College for two years, but his giving lectures during that time, was very often dispensed with upon paying a fine.

Lectures.—The statutes of this faculty suppose that every master is to give prelections; for they enjoin, that, on the day in which the dean is chosen, the masters, according to their seniority, shall name the book upon which they are to prelect; and that, if two masters choose the same book, the senior be preferred, unless there be so many hearers that both may prelect, on the same book, at the same time, in different schools. But, in the minutes of faculty, there is no mention of any such lectures being proposed, or given by any master but the *magistri regentes*.

The manner of teaching, and of hearing, is, by the statutes, ordained to be the same as in *Bononia* and in *Pisa*. In many other things, the practice of some one of the foreign universities is made the rule; but those of England are never mentioned.

Discipline.—Corporeal punishment was sometimes inflicted upon students in the College of Arts. For some faults the statutes order the punishment to be inflicted *caligis laxatis*.

Property.—It may appear strange, that this University was founded without any property in lands, houses, or rents. It came into the world as *naked* as every individual does.—The
congregatio

congregatio universitatis was always held at the cathedral. Sometimes the doctors and masters met at the convent of the Dominicans, or Predicators as they were called. All the lectures we find mentioned in theology, canon or civil law, were read there.—There was an university purse, into which some perquisites, paid at incorporation, and at examinations, and promotions to degrees, were put. From this purse caps of ceremony were furnished, after some years: but to defray the expence of a silver rod or mace, to be carried before the rector at certain solemnities, it was found necessary to tax all the incorporated members; and on that occasion we are told that DAVID CADZOW, who who was then rector, gave 20 nobles.

Two or three chaplainries were bequeathed, under the patronage of the University, by some of its first members. The duty of the chaplain was to perform certain masses, at such an altar, for the souls of the founder and his friends; for which he had a small annuity. These chaplainries were commonly given to some of the regents of the College of Arts; perhaps because they were the poorest of the sacerdotal order in the University.—This patronage and this purse, as far as appears, were all the property which the University ever possessed. Nor does it appear that the faculties of theology, canon or civil law, ever had any property. The individuals had rich livings through all parts of the nation; abbacies, priories, prebends, rectories, and vicarages: but the community had nothing. Its privileges were the inducement to bring rich ecclesiastics into a society, in which they lived at ease, free of all taxes, and subject to no authority but that of their own rector.

The *College of Arts*, however, being perhaps thought the most useful part of the whole, and entitled to public favour, as entrusted with the education of youth, soon came to have
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some property. In the year 1459, JAMES Lord HAMILTON bequeathed to Mr. DUNCAN BUNCH, principal regent of the College of Arts, and his successors, regents, for the use of the said college,—a tenement, with the pertinents, lying on the north side of the church and convent of the Predicators, together with 4 acres of land in the Dow-hill *.—From this time we find the purse of the faculty of arts, which appears to have been heavier than that of the University, employed in repairing and adding to the buildings of the College; furnishing rooms for the regents and students; and things necessary for the kitchen, and a common table.

In the year 1466, another tenement, adjoining to the College, was bequeathed by Mr. THOMAS ARTHURLIE.—By this time, many of the students of arts were the youth of the nation, whose good education was a matter of importance to the public. They were distinguished, according to their rank, into sons of noblemen, of gentlemen, and of those of meaner rank; and, in the expence of their education, were taxed accordingly.

Such, as far as we can learn, was the constitution of the University of Glasgow before the Reformation. There is reason to think, that, when the zeal in favour of a new institution began to cool, the three higher faculties gradually declined into inactivity.

Defects.—From the year 1490, we find frequent complaints, of masters not attending university meetings; of statutes having fallen into disuse; of bachelors and licentiates not proceeding

* In this deed, the regents and students are required, every day after dinner and after supper, to stand up and pray for the souls of JAMES Lord HAMILTON, founder of the college; of EUPHEMIA his spouse, Countess of Douglass; of his ancestors and successors; and of all from whom he has received any benefit, for which he has not made a proper return.

ceeding in their degrees ; of the jurisdiction of the University not being respected. Sometimes, at the election of a rector, not one of the *nation of Albany* was present ; and once, none either of *Albany* or of *Teviotdale*.—There seems only to have been one dean in the University for some time before the Reformation, to wit, the dean of the faculty of arts ; and, therefore, it is probable the other faculties had no meetings. In the later minutes of the University he is called *Decanus Facultatis*, without addition ; whereas, more early, he is always *Decanus Facultatis Artium* *. This style, of *Dean of Faculty of the University*, which we see was a considerable time before the Reformation, continues to be used to this day ; there being only one dean of faculty in that University, who is considered not as the head of one particular faculty, but in the light of an university officer, as the rector is.

There seem to have been two obvious defects in the ancient constitution of the University. The first, That no salaries were provided for regular lectures in the high faculties. It was not to be expected, that the laborious work of teaching should be performed by those who could not live by it ; and who could not, by their industry and eminence in their profession, rise to some degree of respect proportioned to what their talents and learning might have raised them in another line of life.—The second defect—That there was not sufficient power over the
University

* This conjecture is confirmed by a notorial instrument of the foundation of a chaplainry, by Mr. THOMAS LEISS, while he was on a sick-bed, but found in his mind. This instrument was taken, the 8th day of March, in the year 1529, before respectable witnesses, five of whom signed it with the notary. In it the notary says, *Constituit dominum rectorem Universitatis Glasguensis, decanum facultatis ejusdem, indubitatos patronos*. From this, it appears that only one dean existed at that time in the University, or was expected to exist ; and we know that a dean of the faculty of arts was chosen annually till the year 1555.

University to remedy disorders, when these became general, and infected the whole body. The chancellor had, by his oath already mentioned, divested himself of the power which the Pope's Bull gave him; and neither royal nor parliamentary visitations, so frequent afterwards, were then introduced*.

III. HISTORY

* Whatever were the causes of declension in this University before the Reformation, the annals of literature mention very few of its members, who made any considerable figure in the learned world. One, however, deserves to be mentioned. WILLIAM ELPHINSTON, who had been a canon of Glasgow, and had borne the offices both of rector of the University, and dean of the faculty of arts, was eminent in the knowledge both of the canon and civil law. He was made Bishop of Aberdeen, and Chancellor of Scotland; and was employed in several embassies to foreign courts.—He founded the UNIVERSITY of OLD ABERDEEN, in the year 1496. And, either from the experience of what he had seen in the University of Glasgow, or from a deeper knowledge of human nature, he supplied, in his university, both the defects we have observed in that of Glasgow: for he gave salaries (not illiberal for the times) to those who were to teach theology, canon and civil law, medicine, languages, and philosophy, and pensions to a certain number of poor students; and likewise appointed a visitatorial power, reserving to himself, as chancellor, and to his successors in that office, a dictatorial power, to be exercised occasionally according to the report of the visitors.

JAMES BEATON, the last popish archbishop of Glasgow, deserves also to be mentioned with honour. His fidelity in depositing every thing he carried away, that belonged to the archbishopric or to the University, in the convent of the Carthusians, or in the Scotch College at Paris, was never questioned. His political ability appears by his having been appointed one of the Scottish ambassadors, at the court of France, for settling the articles of the Queen's marriage with the Dauphin; his having been again appointed her ambassador at that court, and continuing in that office from the time of the Reformation till her death; and, after that tragical event, his being appointed King JAMES's ambassador at the same court, and holding that office till the time of his own death in 1603, when King JAMES came to be king of England.—This archbishop left several monuments of his learning in manuscript, which are preserved in the Scotch College at Paris, to which he bequeathed the greatest part of his effects at his death.

III. HISTORY AFTER THE REFORMATION.

THE reformation in religion, established by act of Parliament in the year 1560, brought the University of Glasgow almost to annihilation. The dignitaries of the church and convents, of whom its doctors and masters were composed, were no more. The chancellor, JAMES BEATON, fled to France; and carried with him the plate of the cathedral, with the bulls, charter, and rights, both of the see and of the University; which he deposited partly in the convent of the Carthusians, and partly in the Scotch College at Paris, (where they lately were), to be restored when Popery should be re-established.—It ought to be observed, to the honour of that college, that they have always been ready to give extracts from the originals deposited with them, as well as to gratify the curious by the inspection of them. The late Principal GORDON, of that college, made a present to the University of Glasgow of a copy of the chartulary of the chapter of Glasgow, notoriously attested.

All that was now to be seen of the University was that small part, called the *College of Arts*, or *Padagogium*; the least in dignity, though perhaps not the least useful. This small part, with its small property, probably much impaired by the confusion of the times, and the loss of rights,—remained as a relic of the ancient University, and the seed of a reformed University; dependent for its subsistence and growth on future benefactions.—The rich fabric of the popish hierarchy, in Scotland, was pulled down with more zeal than prudence, by a fierce nation, long oppressed, and little accustomed to regular government. All who had power or interest scrambled for the wreck. The Crown, the nobility, and the cities, were enriched by it: some *crumbs* came, by second hand, to the universities.

Q. Mary's Charter.—The first who had compassion on the university of Glasgow, in its depressed state, was the famous and the unfortunate Queen MARY. In a charter granted by her, and to which her privy seal is appended, dated the 13th of July 1560; there is the following narrative:—"Forasmuch as, within the citie of Glasgou, ane colledge and univerfitee was devyfit to be hade, &c. of the whilke colledge ane part of the scoles and chalmers being *bigget*, the rest thairof, alswell dwellings as provifion for the poor bursars and maifters to teach, ceasit; fwa that the samyn appearit rather to be the decay of ane univerfity, nor onie ways to be reckonit ane eftablisht foundation." Therefore, for the zeal she bore to letters, &c. she founds five poor children bursars within the faid college, to be called in all times to come *bursars of her foundation*: and for their *fuftentation* she gives, to the maifters of the faid college and univerfity, the manfe and kirk of the Friars Predicators, with 13 acres of ground adjacent; and feveral other rents and annuities therein named, which had belonged to the faid friars*.

Burgh Charter.—The next benefaction, made to this college, is contained in a charter granted by Sir JOHN STEWART of Mynto, provost, with the baillies, council, and community of the city of Glasgow, in the year 1572; and ratified by the Parliament the same year. They, confidering that, be-

fides

* The name of *bursar*, or *bursarius*, was anciently given to the treasurer of an univerfity or of a college, who kept the common purfe of the community. We fee that, in Queen Mary's time, this name had come to be given to poor ftudents, probably becaufe they were pensioners on the *common purfe*. Her gift is the first we have met with, that was destined particularly for the fupport of a certain number of fuch poor ftudents; whom she appoints to be called *bursars of her foundation*.

sides other detriment their town sustained, their schools and colleges were utterly ruined; and their youth, who were wont to be trained to probity and good morals, left to be corrupted by idleness and wantonness: and, being earnestly desirous to remedy so great an evil, by the exhortation, counsel, and aid of the most respectable Master ANDREW HAY, rector of the church of Renfrew, and vice-superintendent, and rector for the time, of their University of Glasgow,—resolved to restore, renew, and give a new foundation to the *Pædagogium Glasguense, quod pro sumptuum inopia pene corruerat, et in quo, pro nimia paupertate, disciplinarum studia extincta jacebant*. For this purpose, they annex to the said College, and to the regents and students after named residing within it, being 15 persons in all, “for their honest and commodious sustentation, all and “fundry the lands, tenements, houses, biggings, kirks, chap-
“pels, yards, orchards, crofts, annual rents, fruits, duties,
“profits and emoluments, mails, obit-silver, and anniverfa-
“ries whatsoever; which pertained to whatsoever chappels;
“altarages, prebendaries, founded in whatever kirk or col-
“lege within the said city; or of the places of all the friars
“of the same city, according to the gift made to them by
“the Queen, under the great seal, the 26th March 1566.” They likewise will and declare, That the said college, the 15 persons before mentioned, and all others who shall be students in the same, and their servants, shall be exempted *ab omni jurisdictione ordinariâ; necnon ab omnibus customis, exactionibus pedariis, intra civitatem nostram impositis, vel imponendis*.—It is understood to be in consequence of this charter, that the magistrates of Glasgow, or a deputation from them, still continue annually to inspect the accompts of the old revenue of the college, in which the particulars of this donation were comprehended; though the greatest part of it, which consisted of small ground annuals, is now lost.

One might think, that, when to the former revenue of the college were added these donations of Queen MARY, and of the city of Glasgow, it must have been completely endowed for the maintenance of 15 persons; yet it was soon found necessary to increase the revenue, and to diminish the number of persons to be maintained by it. For although the property of the Dominican friars in Glasgow, was certainly very considerable before the Reformation; yet all that the college could make effectual of that, and all their funds taken together, amounted only, by their rental, to L. 300 Scotch money *.

A more effectual benefaction was made to this poor society, in the year 1577, by King JAMES VI. in his minority, with the advice and consent of the Earl of Morton, regent of the kingdom. That was the rectory and vicarage of the parish of Govan, of which the incumbent was lately dead; and the value reckoned about 24 chalders. It was found, however, that the late incumbent had, before his death, given a 19 years lease of the temporality to a friend; and that friend had transferred

* The reason why donations, in appearance liberal, turned out to so small account, was, partly, that the popish ecclesiastics, secular and regular, though their form of worship was totally abolished through the whole nation, continued to enjoy their temporalities for life, subject to a taxation of a third part to the Crown, out of which the clergy of the reformed church were to be maintained; partly, that those incumbents, during their life, practised many arts to alienate their revenues to laymen, either from friendship or for their own profit, by pretended feu-contracts, perpetual or long leases, and many other means, which their private interest, their regard to relations, or their hatred of the new religion, suggested.

Some of these pretended alienations, made to the hurt of the College, were afterwards reduced and annulled by the courts of law, some by arbitration. Probably many more might have been reduced; but that very often the subject was *too small* to bear the expence of a law-suit, or the man in possession *too powerful* to be sued by the College.

ferred his right to a man in power. By this, and some other incumbrances, all that the College could draw from it, for about 20 years, was only 300 merks yearly.

IV. MODERN CONSTITUTION.

New Royal Charter.—With this gift King James gave a charter of foundation to the College; which, in its most essential articles, has continued in force to this day. It is commonly called the *nova erectio*; all subsequent changes being superstructures upon this foundation. The charter proceeds upon this narrative: *Intelligentes quod annua proficua et redditus collegii, seu Pedagogii Glasguensis, tam exigua sunt, ut hac nostra ætate minime sufficientia sint ad sustentandum principalem, magistros, regentes, bursarios, et officarios necessarios, in quovis collegio; nec ad adminiculandum sustentationi et reparationi ejusdem.* And afterwards—*Dum animum nostrum adjecerimus ad colligendas reliquias academice Glasguensis; quam præ inopia languescentam, ac jam pene confectam reperimus.*—The persons founded by this charter are 12; a principal, 3 regents, 4 bursars, an *æconomus* or steward, a cook, a porter, and a servant to the principal.

Establishment.—The principal was to teach theology one day, and Hebrew and Syriac the next alternately, through the week; and to preach in the church of Govan on Sunday. Of the regents, one was to teach Greek and rhetoric; another, dialectics, morals, and politics, with the elements of arithmetic and geometry; and the third, who was also sub-principal, was to teach all the branches of physiology and geography, chronology and *astrology*. The principal to be presented by the Crown; the regents to be elected by the rector, dean of faculty, and the principal. The regents were not, as was the custom of other Scottish universities, to carry on their
students

students through the three years course; but to keep by one profession: so that the student had a new regent every year. The bursars were to be maintained for three years and a half within the College; that being the time required in the Scottish universities for acquiring the degree of Master of Arts.—The steward was to collect the whole revenues, and to provide all necessaries for the college table; and to give an account, every day to the principal and regents, of his disbursements.—The rector, the dean of faculty, and the minister of Glasgow, are authorized to visit the college four times in the year; to examine and authenticate the public accounts; and to see that all things be carried on according to the intention of this foundation, and to correct what was not.

Privileges and Exemptions.—All donations formerly made to the College, by whatsoever person or persons, of whatsoever rank, are ratified. And the whole revenue, formerly belonging to, or now granted, the King declares and ordains, for him and his successors,—shall be enjoyed by the said college, free from any taxation of a third part, or any other taxation whatsoever; any law, custom, act, or ordinance of Parliament, notwithstanding. Finally, he wills and declares, That the College and University of Glasgow shall enjoy all the privileges and immunities, by his ancestors, by him, or any other way, granted to any university in his kingdom,—as freely, peaceably, and quietly, as if it had enjoyed them from ancient times before the memory of men.—This charter was ratified by the King, after he came to the years of majority; and confirmed by act of Parliament in the year 1587.

Government.—In Glasgow, the whole property and revenue pertaining to the University is vested in the College; and is administered by a meeting of the principal and professors, commonly

monly called *the College Meeting*, and very often, though perhaps with less propriety, *the Faculty Meeting*. The record of this meeting is visited and authenticated by the rector, dean of faculty, and the minister of the High Church of Glasgow. Other business of the University, besides matters of revenue, and the discipline of the students, is managed in what is called *an university-meeting*, or *senate*; in which the rector and dean of faculty sit, along with the principal and professors.—Indeed, besides the college, all that remains of the University is a chancellor, rector, and dean. We see that the *Nova Erectio* supposes their existence; but makes no change with regard to their powers, except in giving to the two last, together with the minister of Glasgow, a visitatorial power over the college.—The rector and dean are chosen annually; much in the same manner as they were from the first foundation of the university. The rector always names the principal and professors to be his assessors; and, with them, occasionally forms a court of law, for judging in pecuniary questions, and less atrocious crimes, wherein any member of the University was party. The university has always maintained its exemption from all jurisdiction of the city magistrates, but not of the sheriff or Court of Session.

This may suffice for a general view of the *constitution* of the University, since the reformation from Popery. As to the state of its *revenues* during that period, it has been much indebted both to our princes and to subjects. Its declension before the reign of James VI. was not more remarkable than its progress since that period. From the small beginning, derived from the bounty of that prince, it continued to prosper to the æra of the Restoration; having, at that time, besides a principal, 8 professors, a librarian, with a tolerable library, the number of its bursars increased, and an additional number of other students

students of all ranks. A renewal of the fabric (which had been ruinous) was begun and carried on, with great enlargement, in an elegant manner for the time; but not finished.

V. DONATIONS.

Soon after the new foundation, in the year 1581, the archbishop gave to the College the customs of the city of Glasgow, by which it was enabled to found a fourth regent. A new body of statutes was formed about this time, which are extant. By them it appears that the principal and 4 regents were put to very hard and constant labour; and the students kept under very strict discipline. Of the regents, the first and highest was professor of physiology, and sub-principal; the second was professor of moral philosophy; the third of logic and rhetoric; and the fourth of Greek. Their salaries rose in gradation; and when any of the higher offices became vacant, those who were in the lower were commonly advanced a step; and the new chosen regent had the profession of Greek for his department.

In this state the College continued for a long time; excepting that, in the year 1621, by a meeting of the visitors, in which the archbishop was present, the principal was freed from the duty of preaching in the church of Govan. A minister was appointed to have the pastoral charge of that parish, to whom a stipend was provided out of the teinds of the parish; the patronage of the church being reserved to the University, and the minister being obliged "to read some public lecture in the common schools of the College, as shall be prescribed to him by the officers of the University, and masters of the College." This change they were enabled to make, from having, by an act of Parliament, in the year 1616, been vested in the tithes of the parishes of Kilbride and Renfrew;

frew; burdened with the payment of stipends to the ministers of these two parishes, which are modified by the act; and likewise burdened with the life-rent of the persons, who were at that time titulars of these tithes.—In the year 1637, it appears, that a master or professor *humaniorum literarum*, commonly called *professor of humanity*, had been founded*.

In the year 1641, CHARLES I. by his signature, gave to the college the temporality of the bishopric of Galloway; reserving to himself the power of burdening it with the sum of L.100 sterling, to any person he should name. This gift was confirmed by an act of Parliament the same year.—The office of chancellor of the University becoming vacant, by the abolition of *Episcopal government* in the church, JAMES Marquis of HAMILTON was chosen chancellor, and was the first lay-man who bore that office. After him, WILLIAM Earl of GLENCAIRN was chosen, in the year 1660.

Though the greatest part of the masters submitted with reluctance to the government of OLIVER CROMWELL, and wished a restoration of the monarchy, under proper limitations, the principal, Mr. PATRICK GILLESPIE, was a zealous republican; and, by the interest he had with Oliver, obtained great favours for the University. The Protector and his council renewed all its immunities and privileges; adding that of printing bibles, and all sorts of books belonging to the liberal sciences, and licensed by the University. He confirmed

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* In the year 1637, a meeting of the visitors, the archbishop being present, appointed Mr. ROBERT MAYNE, then professor of logic, to be professor of medicine, and to give lectures in that science. At the same time, the professor of Greek was advanced to the profession of logic; the professor of humanity, to the profession of Greek; and a new professor of humanity was chosen.

all former foundations, mortifications, and donations made in its favour, particularly that of the bishopric of Galloway; to which he added the vacant stipends of the parishes which had been in the patronage of the bishop of Galloway, for seven years to come; and also, in perpetuity, the revenues of the deanry and sub-deanry of Glasgow. This last gift, however, was accompanied with several limitations and restrictions, by which the college had not the possession of the subjects while his power lasted; and, his acts being rescinded at the Restoration, it fell of course, and had no effect.

The re-establishment of Episcopal government in the church, after the restoration of Charles II. gave a severe check to the prosperity of the University; by depriving it at once of the best part of its revenue, to wit, that of the bishopric of Galloway. Before arrangements could be made, suited to this impoverished state, a great debt was contracted. Of the eight professions which had been established, three were sunk; and those that remained were reduced to a very short allowance. The college now consisted of a principal, a professor of theology, and 4 regents; a very scanty revenue, sunk in debt; and a large fabric unfinished.

A visitation of the universities was appointed by Parliament in the year 1664. The noblemen, gentlemen, and clergy, who visited the College of Glasgow, after a strict examination of their revenue, report, "That the sum of three thousand
" nine hundred and forty-one pounds Scotch, yearly, will be
" necessar to be speedily provided for unto the University, or
" otherways it must quickly decay and ruine*." Besides this, they found it had a great load of debt; and that many profes-

sions

* The visitors of the college of Glasgow were, the Archbishop of Glasgow, the Bishop of Galloway; of the nobility, Hamilton, Montrose, Argyle, Kilmarnock, Cochran; besides gentlemen and clergy.

sions were wanting which it ought to have, but cannot for the present possibly have for want of revenue. In this report the visitors were unanimous.

In this state the University remained till after the Revolution. It is true, that, in this interval, it received several considerable donations and mortifications : but these were all appropriated, by the donors, either to the carrying on of the building, or to the foundation of bursars ; and were faithfully applied to these purposes. So that it must have required great economy in the professors, as well as great lenity in their creditors, to preserve them from bankruptcy, during this long interval.

In the year 1693, each of the Scottish universities obtained a gift of L. 300 a-year out of the bishops rents in Scotland. The sum payable to the University of Glasgow, was allocated upon the income of the archbishopric of Glasgow ; and soon after, still better to secure the payment, the College obtained a lease of the whole rent of the archbishopric for 19 years, which lease has from time to time been renewed by the Crown.

The University began now to raise her head, after a long period of depression, by debt and poverty, and by the diminution of her professors. The exertions which were made about this time were encouraged by the great number of her students. Principal STIRLING, in his diary, says, that in the year 1702 the students of theology, Greek, and philosophy, amounted to upwards of 402. The great demand for clergymen, to fill the vacant benefices, immediately after the establishment of the Presbyterian government, occasioned the attendance of a greater number of students about the beginning of this century, than at any former period.

In the year 1706, the profession of humanity was revived ; and Mr Andrew Ross was appointed professor.

In the year 1708, her Majesty Queen ANNE was pleased

to grant the University L. 210 sterling yearly, payable out of the Exchequer: one part of which was appropriated for salaries to a professor of anatomy and botany, and to a professor of oriental languages; and another part of it for augmenting the salaries of the principal and professors, according to a scheme of division mentioned in the deed. This gift has been renewed by all the subsequent sovereigns.

The gift of L. 300 *per annum*, by King WILLIAM, was for some time directed to be applied for extinguishing the college debts, and supporting four bursars. By a subsequent deed of Queen Anne, in the year 1713, part of it was continued for the said purposes; and the remainder appropriated for salaries to a professor of civil law, and a professor of medicine.

His Majesty King GEORGE I. was pleased to grant, out of the rents of the archbishopric, a new gift of L. 170 *per annum*; which was appropriated for a salary to a professor of *ecclesiastical history*, and for augmenting the smaller salaries of the other professors.—By these royal donations, the whole of the rent paid by the College, for the lease of the archbishopric, is exhausted; and regular accompts thereof are transmitted to the Exchequer.

Since that time there has been one profession added to this University, by the bounty of King GEORGE II.

ALEXANDER MACFARLANE, Esq. of Jamaica, had erected an astronomical observatory in that island, for his own use. At his death, he bequeathed his astronomical *apparatus* to the College of Glasgow, on condition that they should build an observatory, and appoint an observer. The College very readily accepted the condition, and built an observatory; and, in the year 1760, his Majesty was pleased to grant a presentation to Dr. ALEXANDER WILSON, to be professor of *practical astronomy* and observer, with a salary of L. 50 yearly out of the Exchequer.

It will not be expected, that we should enumerate the donations made by subjects—of books or prints to the public library, or money to purchase books;—of money for prizes to the more deserving students in the several classes;—of money for carrying on the buildings;—of money, or land, for the foundation of burfars in philosophy, in theology, and in medicine. The names of many of these benefactors are now little known, but in the annals of the University of Glasgow—where they will always be preserved. Some may be mentioned, whose attention to the interest of this society does them honour. Among these are, ANNE Duchess of HAMILTON; ROBINA Countess of FORFAR; WILLIAM Earl of DUNDONALD; the Duke of CHANDOS; the Duke of MONTROSE; Dr. I. LEIGHTON, Archbishop of Glasgow; and BOULTER, Archbishop of Armagh. Of commoners—Mr. SMELL, Dr. WILLIAMS, Dr. WALTON, and the late Dr. WILLIAM HUNTER, are distinguished by the largeness of their donations.

VI. PRESENT STATE.

FROM the foregoing statement, it appears that the ancient constitution of the University of Glasgow, in the distribution of sciences and modes of teaching, as well as in the form of its government, was very similar to that of all the other universities of Europe. The alterations which it has undergone, in later times, are such as might be expected from the changes of opinion with respect to literary objects, and from other varying circumstances. The progress of knowledge, and the increasing demand for literature, have produced many additional departments of science, to those which were originally thought worthy of a particular teacher. What is called the *curriculum*, or ordinary course of public education, comprehends at present five branches, the Latin and Greek languages,

ges, logic, moral philosophy, and natural philosophy. These branches are understood to require the study of five separate sessions.

During their attendance upon these courses of languages and philosophy, and particularly before they enter the class of natural philosophy, the students are expected to acquire a knowledge of mathematics and algebra, for which there is a separate professor, and which is understood to be subservient to natural philosophy and to many of the practical arts. — There is also a professor of practical astronomy, whose business is to make observations, for the improvement of that great branch of physics. — After the course of general education, above-mentioned, a provision is made for what are called the three learned professions, divinity, law, and medicine. For the peculiar education of churchmen there are four professors; — the principal, who is *primarius* professor of theology, and has, besides, the superintendence of the whole University; and the respective professors of theology, of oriental languages, and of church-history. This last is also lecturer in civil history.

In *law* there is only one professor.

There are, by the constitution, no more than two professors allotted to the faculty of *medicine*; to wit, a professor of the theory and practice of medicine, and a professor of anatomy and botany. But the University, out of its funds, and with the assistance of private donations, has made an annual provision for three additional lecturers; in chemistry, in *matéria medica*, and in midwifery.

The University has now the prospect of a great and important addition being soon made to the faculty of medicine. The late Rev. Dr. WALTON, of Upton in Huntingdonshire, about 20 years ago, in a tour to Scotland, visited the University

sity of Glasgow; and, approving of its constitution, and mode of conducting education, gave to the University L. 400 sterling; the interest of which, at his death, he appropriated for the support of a medical student during the course of his education. About 5 years ago the same generous benefactor mortified (funk) the additional sum of L. 1000 sterling, at his death, to the University; for the purpose of supporting a lecturer in any branch of medicine, or of science connected with medicine, which the University should judge most expedient or necessary. By the Doctor's death, which happened about three years ago, both these donations now take effect.

Miss CHRISTIAN BRISBANE, sister of the late Dr. BRISBANE, professor of medicine in this University, mortified the sum of L. 1000 sterling; the interest of which she appropriated for the support of a medical student, two years at this University, and other two years at any other celebrated school of medicine in Britain, or on the Continent, as the University shall direct.

The late celebrated Dr. WILLIAM HUNTER, of London, formerly an *alumnus* of this University, and, during the whole of his life, warmly attached to its interests, bequeathed to the University, at his death, the whole of his *Museum*, one of the most valuable collections in Europe, of natural history, medals, anatomical preparations, books, &c. When this collection has continued a certain number of years at London, he has, by his will, directed it to be carried to the University of Glasgow. And, for the purpose of building a house for the reception of this noble donation, and establishing such new professions in medicine as the University should judge expedient, he bequeathed L. 8000 sterling, bearing interest from his death; the one half of which he directed to be applied for the support of the said *Museum*, while it continues

nues in London—the other, to increase the principal sum, till the period arrive, when both principal and interest shall be appropriated, by the University, for the above-mentioned purposes specified in the deed of donation.

Infirmary.—The progress of a medical school, in this University, has been hitherto much retarded by the want of an *Infirmary* in Glasgow. But there is at present a prospect of that obstacle being immediately removed. A very considerable sum of money has been lately raised, by voluntary subscription, for the purpose of erecting and supporting an infirmary in Glasgow. A royal charter has been obtained, and a grant from the Crown, of the site of the Archbishop's Castle, for the buildings; which, according to a beautiful design, given by the late Robert Adam, Esq. are now finished.

Appointments of the Professors.—The principal, and the professors of church history, law, medicine, anatomy and botany, and astronomy, are nominated by the King. The professors of theology, oriental languages, humanity, Greek, logic, moral philosophy, natural philosophy, and mathematics, and the lecturers on chemistry, materia medica, and midwifery, are nominated by the College.—The average number of students of all denominations, attending the different classes, is considerably above 600.

Salaries, &c.—From the state of the university funds, the professors are allowed very moderate salaries; so as to depend chiefly for subsistence upon the *honorariums*, or fees of their students. This, it is believed, has greatly promoted their zeal and their diligence in their several professions.—In seminaries of literature, possessed of rich endowments, and where there is access to large ecclesiastical benefices, by seniority,

the business of lecturing has generally gone into disuse, or been reduced to a mere matter of form; as few persons are willing to labour, who, by doing little, or by following their amusement, find themselves in easy and comfortable circumstances. The department of teaching is likely, in such a case, to be devolved upon the junior members of the society, who discharge the office of private tutors; and who, from the moment they enter upon their office, are ready to consider it as a passing state, and to look forward to that period when they shall, in their turn, be freed from the drudgery of teaching. In such circumstances, when neither the tutor nor pupil is under the immediate eye of the public, instead of struggling for distinction and superiority, in their respective stations, they will be too apt to indulge the laziness, and to gratify the peculiar humour of each other. In the Scottish universities, and particularly that of Glasgow, where the professors have no benefices in the church, nor any emoluments of any kind independent of their labour, nor any thing that can be called preferment within their reach, that radical defect in the conduct of education is altogether removed. There is likely to grow up with them, in these circumstances, a habitual liking to their objects and occupations, and that interest and zeal, in the discharge of their duty, which are most likely to call forth the activity and industry of their pupils.

It may be thought, perhaps, that, as necessity is the parent of labour, it would be a still greater improvement, that professors in colleges should have no salaries at all. This would be indisputable, if all other employments were left to the natural profit which they can produce, and were not peculiarly rewarded by fixed appointments from the public. But if one trade, or art, is allowed a bounty, another must, upon this account, have also some compensation. The pe-

culiar premiums given by Government to other professions, particularly to the church and the law, seem to require, that, for maintaining some kind of balance, a degree of similar encouragement should be given to the teaching of the liberal arts and sciences. Without this, a private academy can seldom collect a sufficient number of well qualified teachers, so as to prevent a single individual from undertaking too many branches, and becoming what is vulgarly called a *Jack of all trades*.

Time of Lecturing, &c.—The uniform assiduity of the professors in the University of Glasgow, and the length of time which they employ in lecturing, will afford an illustration of these remarks. The annual session for teaching, in the University, begins, in the ordinary *curriculum*, on the tenth of October; and ends, in some of the classes, about the middle of May, and in others continues to the tenth of June. The lectures, in all the other branches, commence on the first of November, and end about the beginning of May. The class of botany begins on the first of May.

During this period, the business of the College continues without interruption. The professors of humanity, or Latin, and of Greek, lecture and examine their students, receive and correct exercises, three hours every day, and four hours for two days every week: The professors of logic, moral philosophy and natural philosophy, two hours every day, and three hours during a part of the session; excepting on Saturdays, when, on account of a general meeting of the public students, there is only one lecture given. The other professors lecture, in general, one hour every day: The professor of mathematics, two hours every day, except on Saturdays: The professor of law, in his public department, two hours. The professor of practical astronomy gives no public lecture.

Advantages

Advantages of Public Lecturing.—In those universities where the professors are uniformly employed in lecturing, it may be expected that the matter of their lectures will correspond, in some measure, to the general progress of science and literature in their several departments. A professor, whose consequence and livelihood depend upon the approbation given by the public to his lectures, will find it necessary to study the principal authors upon the subject: he will imbibe, in some degree, the taste of the age in which he lives, and avail himself of the increase of knowledge and new discovery: he will find it expedient to model his instructions in the manner most likely to suit the purposes, and to promote the interest of his students. By going frequently over the same subject, he has a chance to correct the erroneous opinions which he might formerly have admitted; and, according to the scale of his understanding, to attain the most liberal and comprehensive views of his science. If he is possessed, at the same time, of taste and abilities, he can hardly avoid acquiring an enthusiastic attachment to the objects of his profession, and an ardent desire of propagating those improvements in it which appear to him of importance.

In colleges where no lectures are given, and where the reading and prelecting on certain books, in a private manner, make the chief object of the teacher, the same dispositions and views will seldom occur. The professor, having little temptation to study, in any particular manner, that science with which he is *nominally* connected, will be apt to possess but a superficial knowledge of it, and to have little zeal in communicating new ideas or discoveries concerning it. In such a situation, the prejudices and contracted views of literature, which formerly prevailed, and which were natural upon the immediate revival of letters, may remain to the present day; and the name of *scholar* be restricted to a mere
proficient

proficient in the Greek and Roman languages, the *vehicles* only of taste and knowledge: the pursuits of philosophy may be regarded as idle and chimerical; and every attempt to dissipate the clouds of ancient ignorance, or to correct the errors and prejudices of a former period, may be reprobated as a *dangerous innovation*.

The distribution of science, and the course of lectures, formerly established in all the universities of Europe, were almost exclusively adapted to the education of churchmen, and proceeded upon a much more limited state of knowledge than that which obtains at present. To accommodate instruction, therefore, to the purposes and views of the nation at large, and to render the academical course useful in every situation, it is frequently necessary, in those universities where any part of the old plan is retained, that the professors should now treat their respective subjects in a different manner, and that what is comprehended under particular branches should be greatly varied and extended.

Latin.—In the University of Glasgow, the students, who attend the humanity lectures, are supposed to have acquired the elements of the Latin tongue, in public or private schools; and the professor is employed in reading, explaining, and prelecting upon such Roman authors, as are most suited to carry on their progress in that language. To a class of more advanced students, the professor reads a course of lectures on the peculiarities and beauties of the Roman language, on the principles of classical composition, and on Roman antiquities.

Greek.—In the ancient state of the University, it was probably not usual for any person to study under the professor of Greek, until he had acquired some previous knowledge of the
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the Greek language. But, as Greek is now seldom regularly taught in public schools, the professor is under the necessity of instructing a great number in the very elements of that language. To a second set, who have made some proficiency in that respect, he is employed in reading, explaining, and prelecting upon those classical authors, from an acquaintance with whom his hearers are most likely to imbibe a knowledge of Greek, and, at the same time, to improve their taste in literary composition. To a still more advanced set of students, he also delivers a course of lectures on the higher branches of Greek literature, introducing a variety of disquisitions on the general principles of grammar, of which the regular structure of that language affords such copious illustration.

Philosophy.—In the threefold distribution of PHILOSOPHY, in the academical course, logic has, in general, preceded the other two in the order of teaching, and has been considered as a necessary preparation for them. Before the student entered upon the subjects of moral and natural philosophy, it was thought proper to instruct him in the art of reasoning and disputation; and the syllogistic art, taken from the analytics of Aristotle, was, for many ages, considered as the most effectual and infallible instrument for that purpose. It was supposed to afford a mechanical mode of reasoning, by which, in all cases, truth and falsehood might be accurately distinguished. But the change of opinions on the subjects of literature, and on the means of comprehending them, has occasioned a correspondent alteration in the manner of treating this part of the academical course. The present professor, after a short analysis of the powers of the understanding, and an explanation of the terms necessary to comprehend the subjects of his course, gives a historical view of the rise and progress
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of the art of reasoning, and particularly of the syllogistic method, which is rendered a matter of curiosity by the universal influence which for a long time it obtained over the learned world : and then dedicates the greater part of his time to an illustration of the various mental operations, as they are expressed by the several modifications of speech and writing ; which leads him to deliver a system of lectures on general grammar, rhetoric, and belles lettres. This course, accompanied with suitable exercises and specimens, on the part of the students, is properly placed at the entrance to philosophy : no subjects are likely to be more interesting to young minds, at a time when their taste and feelings are beginning to open, and have naturally disposed them to the reading of such authors, as are necessary to supply them with facts and materials for beginning and carrying on the important habits of reflection and investigation.

Moral Philosophy.—The lectures in the MORAL PHILOSOPHY class consist of three principal divisions. The first comprehends natural theology ; or the knowledge, confirmed by human reason, concerning the being, perfections, and operations of God. The second comprehends ethics ; or enquiries concerning the active powers of man, and the regulation of them, both in the pursuit of happiness, and in the practice of virtue ; and, consequently, those questions that have been agitated concerning good and evil, right and wrong. The third comprehends natural jurisprudence, or the general rules of justice, which are founded upon the rights and the condition of man ; whether considered as an individual, or as a member of a family, or as a member of some of those various forms of government which have arisen from the social combinations of mankind.

Natural Philosophy.—The lectures in NATURAL PHILOSOPHY comprehend a general system of *physics*; and are calculated, in like manner, to keep pace with those leading improvements and discoveries, in that branch of science, by which the present age is so much distinguished. The theoretical and experimental parts make the subjects of two separate courses. The apparatus for conducting the latter is believed not to be inferior to any in Europe.

Mathematics.—The professor of MATHEMATICS has three separate courses. The first comprehends the elements of geometry and algebra; the second, the higher parts of those sciences; the third, the general principles of geometry and astronomy. To teach the application of the speculative doctrines to the various practical arts, makes a very important object in this useful department of education.

Theology.—In the faculty of THEOLOGY, the respective professors of theology, church history, and oriental languages, deliver a system of lectures on natural and revealed religion, on the history of the church, and on the Hebrew language. In this faculty, no *honorarium*, or *fee*, is paid by the students. If this regulation had been extended to all the sciences, it would probably have been fatal to academical activity; but, being limited to a single branch, it has been counteracted by the influence of the general industry and exertion which pervade the society. No deficiency, therefore, is imputable to the professors in this department, either with respect to their zeal in teaching, or with respect to those liberal and tolerating principles which are so conformable to the spirit and genius of Christianity.

Law.—The improvement of LAW, in this University,
seems

seems to have excited less attention from Government than that of the other sciences, as this profession was not established till a late period, and as no provision has hitherto been made for dividing this branch of education among separate professors. The want of competition appears to have had the usual effects; and the custom of lecturing in Latin was longer retained in this, than in the other sciences. The predecessor of the present professor was the first who prelected on *Justinian's Institutes* in English; and this example has, for many years, been followed in the prelections upon the Pandects. It may be mentioned, as a strong instance of prepossession in favour of ancient usages, that, upon this last innovation, the Faculty of Advocates made application to the University of Glasgow, requesting "that the old practice of teaching the civil law, in Latin, might be restored."—The professor of law, besides lecturing regularly upon the Institutes and Pandects of Justinian, delivers annually a course of lectures on the principles of civil government, including a particular account of the British constitution; and, every second year, a course of lectures on the law of Scotland.

Medicine.—The professors and lecturers, in the medical department, it would appear, have been less limited than those in some of the other parts of literature, by the effect of old institutions and prejudices. They have thus been enabled to accommodate their lectures to the progress of knowledge and discovery; and to those high improvements which have, of late years, been introduced into all the sciences connected with the art of medicine. The progress of botany and natural history, and the wonderful discoveries in chemistry, have now extended the sphere of these useful branches beyond the mere purposes of the physician, and have rendered a compe-

tent knowledge of them highly interesting to every man of liberal education.

Improvements.—The University of Glasgow, as has been already observed, was anciently possessed of a jurisdiction similar to that of the other universities of Europe, and exercised a similar discipline and authority over its members. A great part of the students were accommodated with lodgings in the College, and dined at a common table, under the inspection of their teachers. While this mode of living continued, almost every thing was the subject of restrictions and regulations. But, for a long time, this practice has been discontinued, and the severity of the ancient discipline has been a good deal relaxed. The lodgings in the college rooms, after the disuse of the common table, became less convenient; and, at present, no students live within the College, but a few of considerable standing, whose regularity of conduct is perfectly known and ascertained.

These deviations from the ancient usage were introduced from the experience of many inconveniencies attending it. The common table, by collecting a multitude of students so frequently together, afforded encouragement and temptations to idleness and dissipation; and, though the masters sat at table along with the students, yet few advantages of conversation could be attained. Contrivances were fallen upon to remedy that defect, by appointing one of the students (generally a burfar, or servitor) to read a portion of Scripture, or of some useful book, while the rest of the students were at table. But this practice, it is obvious, in such circumstances, was more likely to bring ridicule upon the subjects, or at least to occasion indifference or contempt, than to be productive of improvement. Besides, from a general alteration in the habits and manners of the people, the academical

rules, in these matters, were found troublesome both to the teachers and the students. Hence, attendance at the common table became a kind of drudgery to the masters, from which they endeavoured to escape, or to which they submitted in their turns with reluctance; while the students procured dispensations, or permissions to have their commons in their own apartments. This latter was found to be a source of expence and dissipation, not more unfriendly to literature than to morals. The common table, it is said, became a source of mismanagement and imposition, which could not easily be remedied.

This change in the mode of living has been attended with much comfort and satisfaction to all the members of the University, by superseding many strict regulations, and of course rigorous penalties, which, in the former situation, had been thought necessary: neither has it produced any bad effect upon the manners and behaviour of the students. When teachers are attentive to perform their duty, and discover an anxiety to promote the interests of their scholars, who are above the age of mere boys, it requires very little authority to enforce respect and propriety of behaviour. The most certain and effectual mode of discipline, or rather the best method of rendering discipline in a great measure useless, is by filling up regularly and properly the time of the student, by interesting him in the objects of his studies and pursuits, and by demanding, regularly and daily, an account of his labours.

Boarding.—In the present state of the University of Glasgow, such of the students, as can afford the expence, frequently live in the families of the Principal and Professors; where they have, together with the opportunity of prosecuting their studies, the advantages of proper society and private tuition.

It

It is, at the same time, in the power of every professor, to be acquainted with the behaviour, the application, and the abilities of almost every one of his students. And the knowledge of this is likely to be much more effectual in exciting their exertions, and producing regular attention to their studies, than the endless penalties, which may be contrived, for every species of misdemeanour. A complicated and rigorous discipline, extending to innumerable frivolous observances, can hardly fail, in this age, to become contemptible; and, if students are treated like *children*, it is not to be expected that they will behave like *MEN*.

Weekly Meeting.—Every Saturday there is a general meeting of all the public, or *gowned* students, which is attended by the Principal and their respective Professors. A Latin oration is delivered by the higher students, in their turns: after which, all smaller matters of discipline are discussed. By this weekly meeting, the whole of the students are brought, in a more particular manner, under the inspection of their teachers; and a good opportunity is regularly afforded of mutual information, respecting the studies and deportment of their scholars.

Tests not required.—No oaths, or subscriptions, or *tests* of any kind, are required of students, at their admission to the University; as it is deemed highly improper that young persons, in prosecuting a general course of academical education, should bind themselves to any particular system of tenets or opinions.

Bursaries.—Besides the salaries, bestowed upon professors, additional encouragement has been often given to universities, by the mortification of certain funds for the maintenance of students;

students; as also by requiring that a certain attendance shall be given, in those seminaries, by such as obtain academical degrees, accompanied with various exclusive privileges.

It has of late been remarked, that such institutions and regulations, though intended to promote the interest of those incorporated societies, have proved, in some degree, hurtful to them, by forcing an attendance from a greater number of students, and consequently tending to supersede the industry and abilities of the respective teachers. But the number of this description of students, commonly called *burfars*, at the University of Glasgow, cannot have any considerable tendency of this nature, as their *honorariums* make but a small part of the professor's income; and, it must not be overlooked, that the payment of fees to the professors supposes that lectures are to be given: so that this establishment encourages, at least, the practice of lecturing, however it may tend to produce carelessness in the performance. One good effect of it is obvious. Several of these burfaries are in the gift of the College; so that the Principal and Professors have it in their power to bestow them upon students of superior genius and industry, but who have not the means of prosecuting their studies.—The character of a burfar does not, in the University of Glasgow, carry with it any external marks of servility, or degradation of any kind. Several names might be here mentioned, that would do great honour to the University, who were supported, during the course of their studies, by funds appropriated for that purpose.

The foundation by Mr. SNELL deserves particularly to be mentioned, as perhaps one of the largest and most liberal in Britain. That gentleman, in the year 1688, bequeathed a considerable estate in Warwickshire for the support of *Scotch Students* in BALIOL COLLEGE, OXFORD, who had studied for some years at the University of Glasgow. By the rise in the value

value of lands, and the improvements which have from time to time been made on that estate, that fund now affords L. 70 *per annum*, for ten years, to each of ten exhibitioners. Another foundation, at the same College, of L. 20 *per annum*, to each of four Scotch students, though under a different patronage, is generally given to the Glasgow exhibitioners; so that four of them have a stipend of L. 90 *per annum*, continuing for ten years. The University have the sole nomination or appointment of these exhibitioners.

Rules for obtaining Degrees.—The candidates, for degrees in arts, are, by express regulations, obliged to attend the hours of lecture, and the separate hours of examination, in the *curriculum*, or public course already mentioned; and the laws of the church oblige all students to pass the same *curriculum*, before they can be inrolled students of theology. But no such qualification is requisite for entering upon the study of law, or medicine. Such students, in short, as are not upon any public foundation, or who do not intend to qualify themselves for the church, may attend any of the lectures which they think most suited to their views; though, in case of their deviating from the *curriculum*, they have not the benefit of the regular examinations and exercises of the public students.

The rules, for conferring degrees, were formerly much the same in the University of Glasgow as in the other ancient universities. In those days, when the art of disputation was considered as the ultimate object of academical education, the candidates were obliged, after a certain standing, or residence at the University, to compose and print a thesis, and to defend it in a public syllogistic disputation. But experience discovered that mode of trial to be inadequate to the purpose for which it was intended. It, by degrees, degenerated

rated into a mere matter of form and ceremony. The same subjects of disputation, the same arguments of attack and defence, were preserved and handed down among the students; the public disputations were not attended:—so that degrees became not the rewards of abilities and diligence, but merely the marks of standing, or residence at the University. These circumstances gave occasion for a material change, in the rules for conferring degrees, in the University of Glasgow. The composing and defending a thesis have now become optional, on the part of the candidate. The same standing is still required; and the candidates for degrees in arts are obliged to undergo a minute examination, in the Greek and Roman classics, in the different branches of philosophy which compose the *curriculum*, and by each of the professors in their respective branches: an examination which, in the manner it is conducted, gives the best opportunity of judging of the proficiency and literature of the candidates.

Degrees in Theology and Law.—Degrees in theology, having no privileges in the church attached to them, under the Presbyterian form of government, are, without any regard to standing in the University, conferred on clergymen respectable for their abilities and literature.—Degrees in law are either bestowed upon eminent men, as marks of respect; or upon students of a certain standing, after a regular examination of the candidate.—The University of Glasgow admits students who have passed a part of their academical course in other universities, *ad eundem*, as it is commonly called: that is, whatever part of their academical course is finished at any other university, upon proper certificates, is admitted, as a part of their standing, in the University of Glasgow; so that, without again beginning their course, they can pass forward to degrees, and be enrolled students of theology.

Medical

Medical Degrees.—Degrees in medicine are conferred, after having finished the medical course, at the University; or, upon proper certificates of having finished it at some eminent school of physic: but the candidates are obliged to undergo both a private and public examination, on all the different branches of medicine, before they can receive that honour. It is very common also for them, though not absolutely required, to defend a thesis in the common hall.

Prizes.—The institution of PRIZES, or rewards of literary merit, either in books or medals, to students, during the course of their education, has now been tried for many years in the University of Glasgow, and has been attended with the best effects. Every effort has been made to correct the common defects and irregularities in the distribution of prizes, and to render the competition fair and equal. Subjects of competition are prescribed, calculated to give scope to every kind of genius, and accommodated to the standing of the different students.

Library.—The University LIBRARY, to which all the students have easy access, is a large and valuable collection of books, among which are many now become very scarce. As it was founded about two centuries ago, it is enriched with many early editions; and proper attention has been paid, from time to time, to supply it with the more elegant and improved productions of the Press, particularly in the classical departments. The funds, which are destined for its support and increase, are considerable; and many private donations of books have been made to it from time to time. It was of late greatly enriched, in the mathematical department, by the library of the late celebrated Dr. ROBERT SIMSON, professor of mathematics. By the ingenuity of the late
Dr.

WILSON and Sons, type-founders, and the care and accuracy of the late Messrs. FOULDS, printers to the University, the Library contains some of the most elegant editions of many valuable books. It will soon receive an important addition, by a collection of many rare and splendid editions of books, in all the different departments of science, but particularly in the medical department, bequeathed by the late Dr. WILLIAM HUNTER.

Antiquities.—In an adjoining apartment, the College has placed a number of *mile-stones*, *altars*, and other *remains of antiquity*, which have been discovered in the ancient Roman wall between the Forth and the Clyde.

Worship.—During the session, there is public worship every Sunday in the College chapel. Three or four preachers are annually appointed, out of the number of those students who continue at the University after they have received their licence. The principal, and such of the professors as have been ordained, or have received licences, occasionally preach in the College chapel during the session.

Landed Property, &c.—The College, though in some measure surrounded by the houses of the town, is possessed of more than 20 acres of ground adjacent to its buildings. Upon the most distant part of this ground, and upon a small eminence, is erected the OBSERVATORY, properly fitted up, and supplied with the most improved instruments for the purposes of the professor of practical astronomy. The College buildings, though not splendid, are neat and commodious. The principal and all the professors possess convenient houses, contiguous to the other public buildings. These buildings are surrounded by a *garden* of about ten acres, appropriated to
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the use of the members of the University, and some part of it for exercise to the younger classes of students.

VII. CONCLUSION.

UPON the whole, this University, after experiencing many revolutions and turns of fortune, has, by favourable conjunctures, and by the bounty of the sovereign and of the public, been raised to prosperous circumstances; and has, as an academical foundation, become possessed of some conspicuous advantages:—*Its local situation*, in the neighbourhood of an industrious city, and at some distance from the capital; by which it is not exposed to the dissipation arising from a number of amusements; nor too remote from the topics of speculation suggested by the progress of philosophy, and the interesting business of society:—*The state of its revenue*, sufficient, with economy, in the management of the society, to promote useful improvements; but not so large as to be productive of idleness, and the luxury of learned indolence:—*Its institutions and government*, by which no sort of monopoly is created in favour of particular sects, or particular branches of science; but persons of all persuasions are at liberty to follow that course of study, which they find suited to their various pursuits and prospects:—Lastly, *Its moderate discipline*, endeavouring to regulate the behaviour of the students by a regard to interest and reputation, more than by *authority*; and substituting the anxious watchfulness of a parent, in place of the troublesome and vexatious interpositions of a prying and perhaps unpopular magistrate.

Additions and Corrections.

Infirmary.—The medical school in this University was long retarded by the want of an Infirmary at Glasgow. But that obstacle is now completely removed. In the year 1790, a voluntary subscription was opened, for the purpose of erecting, and supporting an Infirmary, in this place, for the western districts of Scotland. This scheme met with the most liberal encouragement, from the charitable and well-disposed, in the city of Glasgow, and in the adjoining counties, and was in particular much promoted by the activity and influence of the members of the University. In the year 1791, upon the petition of the subscribers, a royal charter was obtained from the Crown, together with a grant of the site of the Archbishop's Castle and Garden, for the purpose of erecting the buildings. During the years 1792 and 1793, the buildings were erected, according to a most beautiful design given by the late Robert Adam, Esq. architect, at an expence of about 8000l.: And it is believed, that, in point of situation, good air, abundance of water, and convenient accommodation for the patients, this Infirmary is not excelled by any other establishment of the same kind in Britain. The Infirmary was opened for the reception of patients on the 8th December 1794; and since that time, the beneficial and salutary effects of it have been so much felt, that it is now considered as a public benefit and blessing to this part of the country. Among other advantages, the number of medical students is greatly increased since it was opened; and there is every reason to believe, that this institution will contribute, in a great degree, to the further extension and improvement of the medical school in this University.

Page 29. line 11. For *Robina* read *Rabina*.—P. do. l. 15. For *Smell* read *Snell*.—P. 30. l. 31. The Rev. Dr. *Welton's* first donation was *anno* 1767, and his second *anno* 1788.—P. 40. l. 21. After *Scotland*, add, 'to which is now added a 'course of lectures on English law.'

NUMBER

N U M B E R II.

UNIVERSITY AND KING'S COLLEGE
OF ABERDEEN.

*Transmitted to Sir JOHN SINCLAIR, Baronet, by the Mem-
bers of the University, anno 1798.*

INTRODUCTION.

IT may be remarked, to the credit of Great Britain, that its inhabitants have not only erected some very celebrated Universities at home, but have also been the means of establishing similar institutions in foreign countries. At first, these institutions resembled in some respects schools, more than Universities; only two faculties, that of Arts and that of Theology, having place in them: afterwards, however, two others, Law and Medicine, were added; which completed the whole course or system of education as then taught. It is but justice to Scotland here to observe, how much the revival of learning may be attributed to natives of that country *. Of this, the French in particular were so

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sensible,

* It is recorded by N. Balbus, in his life of Charlemagne, that, about the year 790, two Scotchmen, Albin and Clement, founded the two universities of Pavia and of Paris, the patterns of most of the universities on the continent.— See Henry Crinus' *Antiquæ Lectiones*, Ingolstadt 1601.

fenfible, that, four nations, only, being at firft admitted into the Univerfity of Paris, the Scots were placed next to the French, *properly fo called*, and above the Picards and Normans. It appears that, fo long ago as the reign of King Malcom IV. there exifted at Old Aberdeen a *Studium generale in Collegio Canonorum Aberdonenfium*; where there were profefſors and docters, both of Divinity, and of Canon and Civil Laws. This *Collegium Canonicum* was inſtituted by Edward biſhop of Aberdeen, anno 1157, ſoon after the epifcopal fee had been tranſlated from Mortlach; and ſubſiſted, as we find in Heſtor Boece's lives of the biſhops of Aberdeen, until the foundation of the College by Biſhop Elphinton.

Inſtitution of the Univerſity, &c.—In the year 1494, Pope Alexander VI. by a Bull dated at Rome, February 10th, inſtituted in the city of Old Aberdeen, or *Aberdon*, as it is there called, an Univerſity, or *Studium generale et Univerſitas Studii generalis*, for Theology, Canon and Civil Laws, Medicine, the liberal arts, and every other lawful faculty. In it, eccleſiaſtics, laics, maſters and docters, are appointed to read, and teach thoſe who come to purſue their ſtudies, from what parts ſoever, in like manner as in other privileged Univerſities. It is farther appointed, that the ſtudents, according to merit, ſhall receive the degrees of Baccalaureat, Licentiate, Maſter and Doctör; and powers of granting the ſame are ſpecially conferred. With theſe degrees are beſtowed all the privileges, pre-eminencies, liberties, exemptions, favours and indulgencies, which are known to belong to any other Univerſity; and that, not only within this, but every other Univerſity, *ubicunque terrarum*, without any farther examination. Laſtly, it is appointed, that William Elphinton, then biſhop of Aberdeen, and his ſucceſſors in office, ſhould be chancellors of the Univerſity, and ſole judges in all cauſes criminal
and

and civil, ecclesiastical or temporal, affecting its members. It was on the supplication of Bishop Elphinston, that King James IV. applied for this Bull. By his royal authority, the King might have granted the requisite privileges and immunities within his own kingdom; but he conceived that it required the plenitude of the papal power to extend them *ubique terrarum*. The King, in his letter, gives a most deplorable account of the barbarous state of the north, or Highlands of Scotland, at that time. It is there stated, "that the inhabitants were ignorant of letters, and almost uncivilized; that there were no persons to be found fit to preach the word of God to the people, or to administer the sacraments of the church; and besides, that the country was so intersected with mountains and arms of the sea, so distant from the Universities already erected, and the roads so dangerous, that the youth had not access to the benefit of education in those seminaries. But," adds the King, "the city of Old Aberdeen is situated at a moderate distance from the highland country and northern islands; enjoys an excellent temperature of air, abundance of provisions, and the conveniency of habitation, and of every thing necessary for human life." He therefore requests that an University may be instituted there, comprehending every lawful faculty.

As two Universities had already been erected in Scotland, it might have occurred, as an objection to the institution of a third, that two had been thought sufficient for the whole of England; "but," says the Bull, "science has this distinguishing quality, that the diffusion of it tends not to diminish, but increase the general mass." Of the same date, the Pope granted a mandate to the bishops of Aberdeen and Dunblane, and the abbot of Cambuskenneth, or any two or more of them, to publish the above Bull, and effectually

to defend and patronise the doctors, masters and scholars, in all their privileges and immunities, and cause the statutes and institutions to be inviolably observed *. The execution of this mandate did not take place till the 25th of February 1496; on which day, within the cathedral church of Aberdeen, William Elphinston, the worthy bishop of that diocese, caused Matthew Pocock, a public notary, to publish the above Bull, in presence of Mr Archibald Lindsay, cantor, Andrew Liell, treasurer, and the other members of the chapter. The same Pope, by another Bull dated 1495, annexed the church of Aberluthnot, now Marykirk, and hail revenue of the Hospital of St. Germain, to the University. By the charter of confirmation of James IV. May 22d, 1497, the King empowers Bishop Elphinston to erect a College within the University, and to divide its revenues among the masters and scholars as he shall think proper, according to commission and authority given him by the Pope. In consequence of these powers, Bishop Elphinston, the chancellor, made and published his first foundation in his lifetime; leaving, at his death, a second or enlarged foundation, which was published by his successor, Bishop Gavin Dunbar, in the cathedral, anno 1531, after establishing its authenticity by a solemn inquiry and proof †. These two foundation charters are the written

* There are some differences between the Bull of Alexander VI. and the Bull of Pope Nicholas V. in 1457, by which the University of Glasgow was erected. It appears, however, by the coincidence of expression that the person who drew up Pope Alexander's Bull for Aberdeen, had that of Pope Nicholas before him; or perhaps there was a general form for all such grants, though occasionally varied as circumstances might render necessary. The original foundation-charter, papal bulls, and other papers referred to, are still extant in the charter chest of King's College.

† Alexander Gordon was the immediate successor of Bishop Elphinston, but lived little more than a year to enjoy his office; and was succeeded by Gavin Dunbar, executor of Bishop Elphinston.

written law, in all questions and disputes that may happen to arise among the members of the University.

By the first foundation, dated 1505, and confirmed by Pope Julius's Bull in 1506, he erects and endows *unum Collegium scholarium studentium et magistrorum sub vocabulo SANCTÆ MARIE IN NATIVITATE*. This College consisted of 36 persons; but by the second foundation, confirmed by a Bull of Pope Clement VII. 1526, the number was augmented to 42: viz. 4 Doctors in the faculties of Theology, Canon Law, Civil Law, and Medicine; the first of these to be called Principal; 8 Masters of Arts, whereof the first to be called Sub-principal, the second, Grammarian, and the other six, Students in Theology; 6 Batchelors in Arts; (all the above, except the mediciner, to be in priest's orders;) 13 poor scholars; 8 prebends for the service of the church, of which the first to be Cantor, the second Sacrist; and 6 singing boys.

Original Constitution.—It appears from the foregoing statement, that, though an University had been established in the city of Old Aberdeen in 1494, yet no college was founded within it till 1506. During the years that intervened between the time of instituting the University and that of founding the college, doctors, masters and students existed, and were endowed in the University by popes' bulls and royal donations; but they did not form a college. They might reside, study and teach in any place within the University, but were subject to no particular rules or discipline. To prevent the inconveniences that might thence arise, was the intention of Bishop Elphinston in founding his college; and, as it is the only one that has ever been erected in this University, it therefore possesses within itself the whole rights and privileges of an university. This college having been soon after taken

ken under the immediate protection of the King, its name was changed from that of St. Mary's, to King's College; and the whole incorporation has since been with propriety denominated, *The University and King's College of Aberdeen*.

Administration of the Funds, and Government of the Members.

—In this incorporation, the administration of the funds and government of the members are vested in the Principal, sub-principal, regents and professors, assembled in a college meeting, or *senatus academicus*; from which there lies an appeal, in *prima instantia*, to the rector and assessors, and finally to the chancellor of the University. There remain vestiges of the ancient division of the members into four nations, each having their head or procurator. These had considerable authority in the university of Paris *, which was the model of that of Aberdeen; but are now perfectly in desuetude here, except at certain elections, when they are chosen *in hunc effectum*; and are denominated the nations of Lothian, Murray, Angus and Mar.

Conservators.—In the days of popery, the conservators, as they are called, were accounted an important part of the constitution. Two classes of these were appointed: one by the Pope, called apostolical conservators, intended for the preservation of the rights and privileges conferred on the University by the see of Rome; the other by royal charter, called the royal conservators, for conservation of those conferred by the

* The *procuratores nationum* of the university of Paris directed all the transactions and correspondence of the students with their friends in the country; and by sending regular carriers to the distant provinces for that purpose, gave the first proof of the benefit arising from a regular communication between the different parts of the kingdom; which led to the institution of Posts through Europe.

the crown. These last are instituted and nominated in a charter under the great seal, anno 1498. They were, the sheriff of Aberdeen, or his depute; 2dly, the provost of the royal burgh of Aberdeen, (*aldermannus burgi nostri de Aberdeen;*) and 3dly, *balivus episcopi Aberdonen. pro tempore, de civitate veteri Aberdonen.:* who are appointed “*conservatores privilegiorum universorum, jurium, libertatum et commoditatum predictæ nostræ universitatis et studii generalis, ut hujusmodi conservari et defendi faciant adeo libere et cum omni potestate et jurisdictione, sicut conservatores in præfata universitate Parisensi habent a Christianissimis Francorum regibus, absque interruptione vel violatione quibuscunque.*”—The apostolical conservators are appointed by a papal bull of Alexander the Sixth, dated nonas Julii 1500 *anno pontificatus nostri 8vo.* The conservators named were, the bishop of Aberdeen, and the abbots of Cambuskenneth and Scone; with the clause, *duo vel unus vestrum, per vos vel per alium.*—All the members of the University being sworn at their entry to subordination and obedience to the statutes, he who refused to appear before the University when lawfully summoned, or who was found to have trespassed against the statutes, was declared infamous or perjured; and if he did not submit, the apostolical conservators were applied to, who were empowered by the Pope's bull, above quoted, to inflict ecclesiastical censure without appeal.

Procurator, or Common Receiver.—The collection and distribution of the revenue is committed to a procurator or common receiver, who is elected, *de gremio et fundatione collegii,* by the Principal, canonist, civilist, mediciner, sub-principal, grammarian, cantor and sacrist, for such a space of time as they may think fit. It is declared to be his duty to collect the college revenue, and to pay the masters and scholars the respective salaries allotted them by the foundation; for which

trouble he received five merks extraordinary. He is to be admitted by the chancellor; or, in his absence, or during the vacancy of the episcopal see, by the rector. He is empowered to set in tack, and even to feu out, (*arrendare et ad firmam demittere*), the teinds and lands of the college, with the advice and by the authority of his electors, or the major part of them, to the common utility of the college, and no otherwise. At his election, he is to find sufficient security, otherwise he is not to be admitted to the office. There is another office-bearer of a similar nature mentioned in the foundation, and there styled "*burgarius communis*," who is to receive the burfaries in every faculty, and to render an account to the faculty of arts. The appointment of this office-bearer has been long discontinued, and his duty conjoined with that of the common procurator. The provisor, or *œconomus*, is appointed to be elected by the Principal, sub-principal and regents: his business is to find provisions for the several regents, students and others, who were bound to reside within the college. The procurator is to advance money to him daily.

Of the Chancellor.—By Pope Alexander's bull, as mentioned above, anno 1494, Bishop Elphinston and his successors, bishops of Aberdeen, are appointed *ex officio* chancellors of the University. In Paris, the pattern university, there are two chancellors of inferior power and dignity to the rector, viz. the chancellor of Notre Dame and of Saint Genevieve*: —In this there is but one; he is however of supreme power. By the same bull, it is appointed that those whom the rector of the University, with the major part of the regents, masters or doctors of the respective faculties, shall recommend to promotion

* M. De Boulay, des officiers de Paris, p. 2.

promotion to the degree of doctor, master, licentiate or *baccalaureus* in any of the faculties, shall be promoted by the chancellor, or whom he deposes for that purpose. The chancellor is also appointed, with the advice of the rector and resident doctors, licentiates and scholars, and two at least of the king's counsellors, to make and enact statutes for the good government of the University. The chancellor admits to their respective offices the Principal, canonist, professor of civil law, medicus, sub-principal, grammaticus, cantor and sacrist. If a vacancy is protracted beyond a month, he presents to all the offices without exception. Whatever abuses are represented to him by the visitors, he reforms by their advice. If the visitors neglect to do their duty, the chancellor visits *per seipsum*. When there is a vacancy of the bishop's see, or when the bishop is absent, (*in remotis agente*,) the duty of visitation belongs to the chapter, or to its *vicarius* deputed by the chapter. It also belongs to the chancellor to remove from their offices those who neglect their duty, after being frequently admonished by the Principal.—Since the abolition of episcopacy, the chancellor has always been elected by the Principal and professors, and continues in office for life.

Rector and Assessors.—The rector of the university is the person next in dignity to the chancellor, and is called *Lord Rector*. He, with his assessors, has power to visit the college *tam in capite quam in membris*, to examine into the state of the buildings, and the management of the revenue, &c.; and report to the chancellor. The election to this office is annual; and has been uniformly exercised by the Principal, sub-principal, and other members of the college, convened in a college meeting.—Although there be no rule in the foundation for the election of the four assessors, yet it mentions particu-

larly that they should be *probi viri*, and masters of arts in the University, chosen and deputed to visit the college. They are chosen annually along with the rector; and it is their duty to assist him in his courts, where they sit as members.—The rector may be chosen *de collegio* or *extra collegium*: but he must actually reside within the University.

Courts for Delinquencies.—The gradation of the courts for punishing delinquencies in the college, is established in the foundation in the following order. 1st. When any person belonging to the college is found guilty of any delinquency, he is to be corrected by the Principal, sub-principal and regents. 2dly. If the delinquent contemns their authority, and refuses to submit to their award, he is to be punished by the rector and his court. 3dly. If he continues in his contumacy, he is to be brought before the chancellor, who may inflict a punishment suited to his original delinquency aggravated by obstinacy, and even expel him from the University.

Principal.—The person first in dignity in the college, considered as a corporation, subordinate to the university, is the Principal. He was to receive 40 merks yearly of salary, besides his lodging in the college, and half the expence of his entertainment when he did duty personally. The Principal was appointed to wear the doctoral habit of the university of Paris. It was his particular province to enforce discipline and superintend the morals of the students; besides giving daily lectures in philosophy, and occasionally visiting those given by the regents. He must be elected by the rector, the four *procuratores nationum*, the doctors of canon and civil laws, the doctor of medicine, the sub-principal, grammarian, students in theology, cantor and sacrist; or by the major part

of

of them; and admitted by the chancellor of the University. At his election, he is to be a *magister in theologia si commode haberi potest*; otherwise a licentiate in that faculty, *cum rigore examinatus*; and within a year, is to be promoted to the *gradus magistratus* in that faculty.

Professors of Canon Law, Civil Law, and Medicine.—The persons next in order to the Principal were, the teachers of canon law, civil law, and medicine: all three, in like manner, licentiates in their several faculties, (*si doctores commode haberi non possint*;) and to be promoted to that degree within the year. The canonist's salary is equal to that of the Principal; the civilist's 20l.; and that of the mediciner 20 merks: each having besides, a manse, garden and glebe. Their duty was to prelect every lecture day in their several faculties, dressed in their proper habits: that of the doctor of canon law was to be conformable to the sacred canons of the *alma universitas Parisiensis*; that of the doctor of civil law, the same as that of the faculty of Orleans *. The electors of these three doctors were the same with those of the Principal; only the students of divinity, cantor and sacrist are omitted.

Sub-Principal.—The sub-principal came next in order to the doctors; and was elected by nearly the same persons with the Principal, and admitted by the chancellor.

Regents

* Uniformity of dress took place so late as the days of King Charles the I. That Monarch prescribed it in a letter from Laud, archbishop of Canterbury, to the bishop of Aberdeen. It is a black cloth gown, reaching to the heels, with two byc sleeves of the same stuff and length, and a neck of velvet. The dress of the students is of the same form, but made of a red or scarlet cloth.

Regents in Arts.—The six students in theology were elected by the three doctors above mentioned, the sub-principal, grammarian and regents, and admitted by the principal. These students were elected *tanto tempore quod ad doctoratus gradum in eadem facultate valeant promoveri, quod erat ad sex annos tantum*; after which they were to remove and make way for others. The founder appointed such a number of them as should be chosen by the Principal and sub-principal, *ad regentiam in artibus*. After a trial of somewhat more than 30 years, this perpetually changing set of teachers in the arts was found exceedingly inconvenient; few of the students in divinity made such progress during the prescribed term of six years, as to be found qualified for the degree of D. D.; and besides, the time of continuance of the regency was considered to be so short, that when one set had accomplished their course, others could not be found to succeed them. These inconveniences having been represented to Pope Paul the Third, by William Stewart, bishop of Aberdeen, his Holiness, by a *brevé indulti*, anno 1538, prorogued the term of six years; and allowed these regents and students in theology to continue to reside in the college, and exercise their functions, until others were found willing and fit to succeed them, and as long as the bishop of Aberdeen for the time should think proper. We shall see afterwards in what manner these regulations of the Pope tended to introduce the present permanent establishment of the regents.

Duty of Sub-Principal and Regents.—The sub-principal and regents were to instruct their scholars in the liberal sciences, in the manner practised by the regents in the university of Paris. The branches taught were logic, philosophy and metaphysics.

Residence

Residence of the Principal and other Members.—The Principal, sub-principal, regents and students were to reside within the college; and the canonist, mediciner, grammarian and civilist, within their manſes.

No Vacation, except in the magistrand Claſs.—There was to be no vacation during the whole year, excepting in the magistrand claſs, in which the thirteen college burſaries in arts remained vacant from the firſt of April to the firſt of October excluſive, that is, from the promotion of the magistrands, to the *novum auditorium*. The Principal, with the advice of the sub-principal, is to chuſe, from among the ſtudents in divinity, the regent who begins the courſe, and continues for the four ſucceeding years.

Grammarian.—The grammarian is to receive 20 merks of ſalary. He is to teach grammar, poetry and rhetoric. He is to be choſen by the Principal, *procuratores nationum*, doctors, sub-principal, regents, cantor and ſacriſt, and admitted by the chancellor.

Divine Worſhip in College Chapel.—Beſide the charge of inſtruction and education, the above perſons, along with the cantor, ſacriſt and chaplains, had the charge of divine worſhip in the college chapel on Sunday and all the holidays, according to an order and rules very particularly laid down in the foundation.

Medical Profeſſorſhip.—It is worthy of obſervation, that among the original members founded by Biſhop Elphinton, we find a profeſſor of canon law, a profeſſor of civil law, and a profeſſor of medicine; none of which profeſſorſhips are
known

known to have been at that time established in the other universities of Scotland. It is probable that this early institution of a medical professorship in the University of Aberdeen, was owing to the King's own predilection for that science, in which he is said to have been "a willing and a skillful practitioner:" and we find certain annual rents mentioned in the foundation, as particularly assigned by the King for the support of this office. Physicians appear to have been in great request about that time in the north of Scotland; for in 1503 the town council of Aberdeen appointed 10 merks yearly to be paid to James Cumin, physician, to induce him to stay in the town; "till he could be provided with a salmon fishing of the usual rent, but without paying any grassum." This is probably the same James Cumin who died professor of medicine in 1521; and he appears to have been the first who held that office.

Bishop Elphinston particularly attached to the study of Law.— In the early part of his life, Bishop Elphinston had been attached to the study of law, which he had taught for six years in the university of Paris with great applause. He had acted as official under the bishop of Glasgow and archbishop of St. Andrews: and large manuscript compilations of canon law, made by him, are still preserved in eleven volumes folio in the library of the university. These habits of study will account for the particular attention he paid to the science of law, by instituting two professorships in that faculty; and with much probability we may ascribe to his suggestion, that singular act of parliament enforcing the study of the law, which has been celebrated as worthy of the antient legislators. It was passed in 1494; the same year in which the papal bull for founding the University of Aberdeen had been

been issued *. Bishop Elphinston was at that time keeper of the privy seal: he stood high in the favour of the King, and at all times possessed much influence in parliament: "*In consiliis regni* (says Leslie) *non solum interfuit sed pene præsuit.*"

HISTORY.

Commencement of Education.—It cannot be determined from any of the college records, how long it was after the date of Pope Alexander's bull of erection, before the teaching and lectures began. We may take it for granted that at least nine years elapsed, as the date of Bishop Elphinston's first foundation is anno 1505. This point might have been determined with sufficient precision, if Hector Boece, when describing very particularly his polite reception, by the canons of the cathedral of Aberdeen, on his arrival from Paris, had thought proper to subjoin a date: for his words (vitæ p. 2, fol. 26,) imply, that the teaching must have begun upon his arrival, and, as appears from his relation, with the happiest consequences: "*Exactâ inde et perseveranti diligentia effectum est, ut brevi post tempore præstante disciplina viri ex Aberdonensi universali academia prodierunt, in divinis literis, et utroque jure; permulti in philosophia.*"

VOL. ULT.

I

Additional

* Act 5th, Parliament of King James IV. 'It is statute and ordained throu all the realme, that all barrones, and freeholders, that are of substance, put their eldest sonnes and aires to the schules, fra they be six or nine yeires of age, and till remain at the grammar schules quhill they be competentlie founded, and have perfite Latine, and thereafter to remaine three yeires at the schules of arts and jure, swa that they may have knowledge and understanding of the lawes: Throu the quhilks justice may remaine universallie throu all the realme: swa that they that ar schireffs or judges ordinaris under the Kingis hiennesse, may have knowledge to doe justice, that the puir people suld have na neede to seek our foveraine Lordis auditour for ilk small injurie: and what barronn or freeholder of substance that holdes not his sonne at the schules, as said is, havand na lauchfull effoinzie, bot failzies herein fra knowledge may be gotten thereof, he sall pay to the King the summe of twentie pound.'

Additional Revenue by James IV. and Bishop Elphinston.—To the original endowments of the university, consisting of the revenues of the hospital of St. Germain's at Tranent in Lothian, (which comprehended the churches of Aberluthnot, Glenmyck and Abergardyn,) King James IV. added the tithes of the parishes of Slains, Auchindore and Tillynefsle, in the county of Aberdeen; with certain lands and annual rents in the county of Banff. Bishop Elphinston likewise added the lands of Balnakettle, Mundurno, Berryhill and others, in the county of Aberdeen; most of which have been lost by various accidents, and some of them repurchased.

Buildings.—At his own expence chiefly, but not without some aid from royal munificence, the bishop built the necessary edifices, in a style certainly magnificent for Scotland in that age; and such of those buildings as remain not much changed, bear testimony to the good taste of the founder.

Professors' Glebes.—Having with great pains been able to accomplish the purchase of various lands adjoining to and surrounding the edifice, to the extent of 24 acres; he appropriated these for the glebes, gardens and houses of the professors.

*Bishop Elphinston's Bequest of 10,000*l.**—Bishop Elphinston died, in 1514, before his beneficent plans had been completed: but he bequeathed, for that purpose, the sum of ten thousand pounds Scots, in gold and silver then lying in his coffers.

Bishop Dunbar.—What Bishop Elphinston left unfinished was carried forward by Bishop Gavin Dunbar; who, during the 13 years that he filled the see, from 1518 to 1532, is
said

said to have expended the whole revenue in pious and charitable uses. Beside the additions which he made to the edifices of the college and the cathedral, he completed the bridge over the Dee; and, hard by the cathedral, he built an hospital as a memorial of his name to future times.

Bishop Stewart—Bishop Stewart, who next succeeded to the see, added both to the buildings and to the revenue of the College, which, till the period of the Reformation, appears to have been in a very flourishing state*.

Hector Boyes, first Principal.—The first Principal, Hector Boeth, or Boyes, eminent both as a biographer and historian, was brought from the University of Paris, where he taught philosophy, by his particular friend the founder, to commence the course of education in his College of Aberdeen.

William Hay, first Sub-Principal.—The first sub-principal, William Hay, accompanied Hector Boyes from Paris, in which University he had also taught philosophy. He succeeded Boyes in the office of Principal.

* The flourishing state of the University in 1541 appears from the following passage in Leslie:—'Rex deinde (anno 1541) ac plurima nobilitas Regiam ad Aberdonensem Academiam comitabantur, in qua civés et scholastici officiis diversis, illi triumphis publicis, hi exercitationibus privatis animos voluntatesque suas certatim conabantur declarare. Nam nulla effluxerat dies, in qua aut comediæ in theatrum non inducerentur, aut controversiæ ex omni artium genere depromptæ non agitentur, aut orationes in Græca Latinaque lingua summo artificio instructæ non haberentur, aut aliæ id genus exercitationes non instituerentur. Quo officiorum genere, tum Rex ac Regina 15 integros dies non sine summa sua voluptate ac singulare scholasticorum laude cumulareretur. Episcopo infinitas gratias egerunt, non solum quod illos tanto tempore honorifice tractavit: verum etiam quod Academiæ, tam insigniter constitutæ, auctor in primis fuit.'—Leslaus de rebus gestis Scotorum, lib. ix. p. 230.

Principal Anderson.—John Biffet became Principal after William Hay, but resigned his office, at the end of six years, in favour of Alexander Anderson, who was Principal at the time of the Reformation. Principal Anderson's learning is commended, and his spirit in defending the edifice from a mob of reformers, whose purpose was to have stripped it of the leaden roof and the bells, in the same manner as they had treated the cathedral. But perceiving, afterwards, that the whole Roman Catholic establishment was going to wreck, and from the hatred he bore to the reformed religion, he alienated some of the college revenue, destroyed several of its charters, whereby many of the lands and rents of the hospital of St. Germain's were quite lost; and sold the ornaments, books and furniture belonging to the College. In 1569 he was expelled by the commissioners of visitation, together with all the other members, on account of their adherence to Popery.

Principal Arbuthnot.—The Regent Earl of Murray was personally present, and bestowed the office of Principal on Mr Alexander Arbuthnot, whose character stands very high for learning and worth, and the influence which he possessed among his contemporaries. In his time the revenue of the College received considerable additions, particularly the tithes belonging to the deanry and sub-chantery of Aberdeen, which were bestowed by King James VI. and which now constitute the principal part of its remaining income.

Nova Fundatio.—In the year 1578, visitors were appointed, by authority of Parliament, for new-modelling the state of the three Scotch Universities; and in 1592 the *nova fundatio* of King's College was drawn up, in name of the professors, and received the ratification of Parliament in 1597.—

By

By this model, which nearly resembled those adopted for the Universities of St. Andrews and Glasgow, the whole establishment was reduced to a Principal, with four regents, a professor of humanity, and some bursars.

Principal Rait's Dilapidations.—About this time, David Rait, Principal of the College, feued off the manfes and glebes belonging to the professors of medicine, civil law, canon law and humanity: and, holding the office of procurator or steward, together with that of Principal, in his own person, for twenty years, he is accused of committing dilapidations, or *peculations* rather, in various ways, for his private advantage, and that of his friends.

Bishop Forbes checks these abuses; &c.—Bishop Forbes put an end to these abuses, in 1619. Having procured a royal commission of visitation, in which he presided, he called the offending Principal to account, and obliged him to refund in some measure: yet treating him very gently, in respect of his learning, he allowed him to hold his office during life. It was not without much difficulty and labour, continued for several years, that this worthy prelate was able to recover the glebes and manfes so unwarrantably feued off, together with some part of the other property of the society which had been alienated and embezzled. He also, at the same time, obtained a ratification and renovation, by Parliament, of the original foundation; in consequence of which, he restored all the offices abolished by the *nova fundatio*, excepting only those of the chaplains and singing boys of the choir, which the change of religion had rendered no longer necessary. The cantor, however, was retained; and seems, about this time, to have got the designation of professor of music. The constitution, thus re-established, was ratified in the

the most ample manner by an Act of Parliament in 1633 : but, in 1639, commissioners from the General Assembly, at that time more powerful than Parliament, suppressed the offices of canonist and cantor, as being superfluous.

Thus, contrary to what has happened at St. Andrew's and Glasgow, the original foundation of this College still continues in force with very few exceptions. The most material alteration introduced by the *nova fundatio* regarded the *studentes in theologia*, or regents in arts ; who, in consequence of it, became “ *quatuor regentes qui juventute instituenda præsent* “ *et Principali auxiliarentur, quorum unus p[ro]st Principalem sub-* “ *principalis dicitur, cui quarta classis commissa est.*” The fourth regent was to be *præfectus primæ et infirmæ classis*, in which he taught the Greek language ; and the second and third had their several departments in philosophy and mathematics assigned to them : and thus all of them became fixed and permanent masters and regents in the College. This constitution, thus introduced, continued, notwithstanding the restoration of Bishop Elphinston's foundation : the regents at that period, and down to the present time, appearing, from the records of the University, to have been permanent, and to enjoy all the privileges of the other masters, such as sitting at college meetings, and voting at all elections *.

Professor

* About the year 1741 the rights and privileges of the regents were called in question, on occasion of the election of Sir William Forbes to the office of civilist : and a process of declarator having been raised before the Court of Session by Sir William and the Regents against Principal George Chalmers and the masters on the opposite side of the question, Sir William's election was found good on account of the regents votes being sustained ; and as a separate head of declarator it was found that the regents had a permanent right to sit in all college meetings, and to vote in all elections, and enjoy every privilege competent to the other members of Bishop Elphinston's foundation.

Professor of Divinity.—About the year 1620, a professor of divinity was added to the founded members of the University, by contributions from the bishop and clergy of the diocese of Aberdeen; and the election of the professor vested in the moderator of the provincial synod of Aberdeen, with two delegates from each of the eight presbyteries which constitute the synod, the Principal and dean of the faculty of theology of King's College, together with another of its members chosen by the College for that purpose.—The money belonging to this fund was some time after employed in purchasing lands in the parish of Kinnellar; on which King Charles the First granted a charter, dated March 12th, 1642, in favour of Mr Adam Barclay, then professor of divinity, and his successors in office. In this charter are inserted the rules relating to the election of a professor, and the powers of the synod, with respect to his office and revenues. The election is to be made on a comparative trial, after issuing programs for that purpose; and the different heads of examination are particularly specified. In 1753, the synod, on the representation of Professor Lumsden, the then incumbent, feued the above lands *in perpetuum* to the College.

Revenue of the See of Aberdeen granted to the King's and Marischal Colleges.—Upon the abolition of Episcopacy in Scotland, in the year 1641, King Charles I. granted the revenue of the see of Aberdeen to the King's and Marischal Colleges, assigning two third parts to King's College: which gift was ratified in Parliament, (unprinted Act 169), and by his royal charter he united them under the name of "The Caroline University." This union was confirmed by Oliver Cromwell, A. D. 1654, and continued till the Restoration; when Act 15th, Parl. 1, Charles II. and Act 1st, Sess. 2d, rescinding all the Acts of the Parliament 1640, restoring Episcopacy,
and

and annulling all acts, gifts and deeds in prejudice of the several bishopricks,—put an end to that union, and annihilated the object of it. When Episcopacy was again abolished, at the Revolution, the revenue of the bishoprick was differently applied.

Marquis of Huntly, Chancellor of Caroline University.—George Marquis of Huntly was elected chancellor of the Caroline University by a meeting of the members, held in King's College, January 1643.

Members expelled for refusing to sign the Covenant.—During these times of confusion, several members of the college were expelled for refusing to sign the covenant; and among these were Dr Leslie, Principal, and Dr Forbes, professor of divinity: two of the most distinguished of those Aberdeen doctors, (as they were then called,) who, in the years 1638 and 1639, had maintained the controversy with the Covenanters, and on whose learning and loyalty Lord Clarendon has bestowed a very liberal encomium *.—Dr Leslie was received into the family of the Earl of Huntly. Circumstances of peculiar hardship attended Dr Forbes's case. He was the very learned son of that Bishop who had so lately restored the original foundation of the College; and having been elected professor of divinity, he had purchased a house, in Old Aberdeen, for

* 'The clergy (of Scotland) were for the most part corrupted in their principles; at least, none were countenanced by the great men or favoured by the people but such; though it must be owned their Universities, especially Aberdeen, flourished under many excellent scholars and very learned men' (Hist. of the Rebellion, vol. 1, p. 63.) Many curious particulars relative to this controversy are to be found in the letters of Principal Baillie a leader among the covenanting clergy, but a man of a moderate temper and great candour. See also Bishop Burnett's preface to the life of Bishop Bede.

for himself, and his successors in that office. As no clause had been inserted in the deed, reserving the use for his lifetime, he was now obliged to leave his own house to a successor !

Singular Visitation of five Colonels, deputed by General Monk.—

A singular sort of visitation took place in 1651. General Monk sent five Colonels to visit and reform the colleges, viz: Desborough, Fenwick, Moseley, Owen and Smith. They removed from their offices Principal Guild, with several of the professors; not for want of learning or diligence, in both which respects they are highly approved, but for some want of exact conformity to the standard of theological opinion at that time adopted by the army. Principal Row, and the other members who succeeded, are commended as learned and prudent men. In other respects, however, these military visitors treated the college not unkindly. The large building erected at this time, on the north-east corner of the court, for the accommodation of the students, is said to have been greatly forwarded by a contribution from General Monk's officers.

Restoration.—On the restoration of monarchy, in 1660, the bishops of Aberdeen resumed all their original authority, as chancellors of the University; and many things, that had fallen into disorder during the preceding troubles, were now regulated in conformity to Bishop Elphinston's foundation, as revived in 1619.

Bishop Scougal.—Under the mild and intelligent superintendence of Bishop Scougal, the state of the University seems to have been uncommonly prosperous, and the offices were all filled with men well qualified for their stations.

Professor of Oriental Languages.—On the suggestion of this worthy prelate, a professor of oriental languages was established in the University, for the advantage of the students in divinity. A salary of 300 merks was appropriated out of the common funds; and Mr Patrick Gordon, professor of humanity, was chosen first professor in 1674, and continued to hold both offices.

Course of Education and Discipline at this period.—We find, in an historical memoir, written about this time, under the eye of Principal Middleton, a pretty distinct account of the manner in which the education and discipline of the College were then conducted. “ Every Michaelmas (says the writer) “ the masters convene, after the ending of the ten weeks “ vacation; and a program is affixed on the college gates, “ inviting young scholars to come and dispute for a bursc, “ (which is their maintenance at the college.) To these are “ prescribed exercises or themes to make, then Latin authors “ in prose and verse to expound; and the first four (for so “ many bursaries are void at every commencement) who are “ reckoned to be the best scholars are preferred. In Octo- “ ber the students begin to convene. They wear a red or “ scarlet gown with hanging sleeves; but those who are bur- “ sars, a black gown with a girdle. Their time of continu- “ ing at the University is four years. They are ranked into “ four classes. To those of the first class is taught the Greek “ language. The students of the second class learn logic “ and metaphysics. Those of the third class (who at the “ years’ end are bachelors of arts) learn ethics and general “ physics. The fourth and highest class completes their “ course with special physics and mathematics. The time “ of the commencement of master of arts is in July. Before “ the day appointed, those, who are to receive the degree, “ publish

“ publish their theses, inviting all learned men and scholars
“ to come and dispute.”

Mortifications for Bursaries.—In the year 1648, Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys, Baronet, mortified certain lands for the support of bursars at King's College; and in 1679 Walter Ogilvy of Redhyth bequeathed his whole estate for the same purpose, and for the maintenance of scholars at the school of Fordyce. These were the first considerable additions made to the original number of bursars; and similar donations have since been frequent*.

King William's Grant of 200l. ; &c.—King William having granted, in the year 1695, the sum of 200l. per annum for the behoof of King's College, a considerable part of this sum was afterwards assigned as a salary to the professor of oriental languages: and the College was thereby relieved from the expence of the salary which had been provided for this office at the time of its first institution in 1674. His Majesty at the same time assumed the right of patronage to the office to himself and successors.

K 2

Attempt

* The following is a list of the Donors of Bursaries:

Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys	1648	Dr Frazer	-	-	1730
Walter Ogilvie of Redhyth	1679	Mr David Ogilvie	-	-	1723
Mr Melvil	-	1678	The Laird of M'Intosh	-	1706
Dr Watt	-	1685	Lady Braco	-	1706
Mr Fullarton	-	1692	Dr Moir	-	1783
Mr Park	-	1692	Alexander M'Lean of Coll	-	1791
Mr Watson	-	1699	Mrs Udny Duff	-	1794
Dr Adam	-	1700	Rev. Mr J. Grant	-	1797
Alex. Falconer of Glenfarquhar	1724	Dr Murray	-	-	1797
Mr Greig	-	1724			

Attempt to found a Professorship of Mathematics.—But before many years had elapsed, the society thought proper (though with some prudent cautions) again to burden their funds with a similar salary, and almost of the same extent, for the establishment of a professor of mathematics in their seminary. The minutes of election, which took place in 1703, shew at once their good will to promote the interests of learning, and the scanty means with which they were furnished. It bears, that “ The meeting, taking into their consideration how
 “ much it may be for the advancement of learning and interest of the College that mathematics should be taught
 “ therein, nominate, appoint and empower Mr Thomas Bower to profess and teach mathematics, both publicly and
 “ privately, in said College: and for the encouragement of
 “ the said Mr Thomas Bower, until a fitter and better fund
 “ be procured, do hereby promise and engage unanimously
 “ to give and accommodate the said Mr Thomas Bower in
 “ his diet at the college table, during the winter session of the
 “ said College, as also to pay him two hundred merks Scots
 “ out of the college revenue; in case, only, that it appear, after clearing the yearly procuration accounts, that the balance can bear the same *.

Royal Visitation, 1716.—Strong marks of disaffection to government were shewn by some of the masters of King’s College in the time of the rebellion 1716; and a royal commission for visiting both colleges having been issued in July
 of

* Doctor Bower, whose reputation for mathematical science stood very high, found interest to procure a royal patent or presentation to his office; and a salary was assigned him arising from a tax on ale and beer within the burgh of Old Aberdeen. No provision could be more embarrassing and improper than this. Dr Bower, after contending some years with the difficulties of his situation, demitted his office, and withdrew to London.

of that year, Dr George Middleton, Principal of King's College, with three of the professors, were removed from their offices. Mr Chalmers, minister of Kilwinning, succeeded as Principal, by virtue of a royal presentation, accompanied with a commission to the magistrates of Aberdeen, and certain ministers in both towns, to grant him admission to that office. On the 22d November 1717, he appeared at King's College, accompanied by those commissioners; produced his presentation: and the foundation oath was administered to him by the sub-principal of the College.

Low Condition of the College Revenue and Fabric, 1717.—

Next year, Principal Chalmers was appointed to repair to London, and, in name of the society, “to represent to their
“gracious sovereign the low and sinking condition of the
“college revenue, the ruinous condition of the fabric there-
“of, and the mean salaries of the masters; and supplicate his
“majesty's royal bounty *.”

Dr Frazer's Munificence to the College.—No effectual relief was obtained by this application; but the bounty of a very liberal private benefactor in some measure supplied the defect. Dr James Frazer of Chelsea, the son of a clergyman in the county of Inverness, had acquired, in various literary stations, a pretty considerable fortune; and after making ample provision for his family, was induced, in the evening of life,

* Previous to the annexation of the bishops' rents by act of Parliament 1641, the Earl of Sutherland and other noblemen, who were commissioned to enquire into the revenues of the Colleges, reported that the proper yearly expences of the University and King's College exceeded their revenue by 285l. 7s. 1d. This deficiency seems to have been the motive for granting to the united colleges the bishops' rents; of which they were deprived by the rescinding acts of Charles II. above mentioned.

life, to extend his bounty to the University in which he had received his education.

In the course of a few years he expended about 1400*l.* in repairing and furnishing the library, and in the construction of that commodious and not inelegant range of building which extends along the south side of the College Court. Dr Fraser's benefactions took place about the year 1725; and he himself died in 1731, at the age of 86.

Projected Union of the King's and Marischal Colleges.—The union of the King's and Marischal Colleges of Aberdeen has often been projected; but various causes have hitherto prevented it from taking place. In 1747, the members of both Colleges proposed a scheme, which they had concerted for that purpose; but the magistrates of Aberdeen determined to oppose it, unless it should be previously agreed upon, that the seat of the United College should be fixed in Aberdeen. Another scheme in 1754 was brought to a considerable degree of maturity. It was proposed to incorporate the funds of both societies into one common stock, so as to answer the following purposes: 1st, To make proper endowments for as many professors as the funds could support. 2dly, To provide lodging for the masters and students. 3dly, To make the discipline and education as perfect as might be. And, 4thly, To do this in such a manner as might not be detrimental to the present incumbents, or to the common revenue.

Insuperable difficulties again occurred in determining the seat of the united College; and the whole plan was suffered to fall to the ground at that time. Other schemes of union proposed in 1770 and 1786 shared the same fate.

Improvement

Improvement of Revenue.—As no application to Government for any addition to the scanty revenue of the society had been attended with success, the members were reduced to the necessity of having recourse for the improvement of it to such means as were to be found within their own reach.

In this view, several schemes were agitated about the year 1751; and at last the sale of the superiorities and church patronages was adopted as the most eligible. By which a capital of 3000*l.* was added to the funds of the society.

Review of Plan of Discipline and Education, 1753.—In the year 1753, the whole plan of discipline and education in King's College was brought under review for the purpose of improvement. A great number of statutes relative to these objects, since known by the name of 'the new regulations,' were enacted by the College, and submitted to the examination of the public. In framing these regulations, the celebrated Dr Reid's opinion, and views respecting education, are supposed in general to have prevailed. It was determined that the session of College should be prolonged from five months to seven, beginning on the first Monday of October and ending in May: that the students should all lodge within the College, in chambers provided for them at an easy rent; the College gates being locked at nine, and the chambers visited after that hour, by one of the professors in weekly rotation: that the students should all board at a common table kept within the College, at a regulated and very moderate rate, where one or more of the professors were to be constantly present: that the strictest punctuality should be observed by the students in their attendance at lectures, during the whole of the session: that less time than usual should be spent on the logic and metaphysics of the schools, and a great part of the second year be employed in acquiring the
elements

elements of natural history in all its branches : that the professors of Greek and humanity should open classes for the more advanced students, during the three last years of their course : that a museum of natural history should be fitted up, and furnished with specimens, for the instruction of the students ; and that a collection of instruments and machines relative to natural philosophy, and a chemical laboratory for exhibiting experiments in that science, should be provided with all convenient speed.—For some years the good effects of these regulations seemed very flattering, and the masters thought they might congratulate themselves upon “ having “ under their care a set of the most regular and diligent students to be found any where in the king’s dominions*.” But considerable difficulties by degrees occurred in conducting the economy of the public table. It was not found that lodging so many young men together within the walls of the College was attended with all the expected advantages. The number of students diminished apace : some were disgusted with the strict discipline and regular attendance required : many could not support the expence of the prolonged session : it had been thought proper in order to enable the bursars to defray this increased expence, that the small bursaries in the gift of the College should be united, and two of them conferred on the same burfar : doubts began to be entertained concerning the legality of this proceeding : the bursaries were therefore separated again : the length of the session was (reluctantly on the part of the College) reduced to its former period of five months, and the students left at liberty to lodge and board in the town or within the College, as they might chuse ; but all the other regulations enacted by the statutes

* Printed memorial to Lord Findlater Chancellor, relative to the union 1755.

tutes in 1753 relative to studies, discipline and attendance, continue still in force, with a salutary influence.

PRESENT STATE.

Revenue.—It has been already mentioned that the revenue of the University was originally set apart for the support of 42 persons, of whom 21 were in priests orders. These are now reduced to 23 in consequence of the change in religion and deficiency of funds. Since the time of King James VI. no additional provision has been made either by public grants or private donations for the founded members of this literary seminary, except 93l. 6s. 8d. sterling, included in King William's mortification of the bishops rents; and 91l. 8s. sterling, granted by Queen Anne, and hitherto continued by her royal successors.—Of two of the parishes united to the University, the tithes have been long since exhausted in providing legal stipends for their ministers; more than one half of a third parish is overblown with sand; and no less than three additional stipends have been brought upon the other tithes belonging to the University, by new erections of parishes; so that the whole revenue for the support of the buildings, the sustenance of the Principal, and 7 professors, 13 bursars in arts, a provisor, and 2 servants, all the public and necessary annual expences of the College, and stipends for 8 ministers, consists of the tithes of only 6 parishes and a half; about 63l. from feu duties and annuities; 184l. 14s. 8d. from royal bounties since the Revolution, and the interest of the fund arising from the sale of superiorities and patronages. Of these funds too, the tithes (originally the most considerable branch) are much exhausted, in consequence of the augmentations lately awarded by the Court of Teinds, to the ministers of

those parishes, whereof the College are titulars of the tithes; infomuch that all now remaining of them to the College is 340l. sterling, and 193 bolls of victual; but which is still liable to future augmentations of ministers' stipends. The benefactions to the College have chiefly been given for providing new bursaries; infomuch that the stock of these mortifications is at present worth 16 or 17,000l. sterling. The rights of these mortifications are vested in the corporate body of the College; who are likewise patrons of most of them, but derive no benefit from them except the small honorarium or fee to the teaching masters*.

Greek Class.—By the antient practice of the University, the regents not only taught in rotation, the several branches of science, which constituted the philosophical course, but Greek also. It was not till about the beginning of the present century that this department was allotted, by a Royal and Parliamentary visitation, to a separate professor. As few of the students who now enter College, make any previous proficiency in Greek, their first year is generally devoted to the study of its elements; the professor meeting with this first or elementary class three hours every day during the session, Saturdays and Sundays excepted. It had once been customary, to give a fourth hour daily for the benefit of more advanced students; but from various causes this practice fell into disuse. Within these few years, it has been revived under a different form: the bursars of the higher classes are required

* Lesser donations for the purchase of books, philosophical apparatus, &c. have been made at different times: these it would be tedious to enumerate though the names of the donors are carefully preserved; but it would be ungrateful to omit the name of Dr Murray of Philadelphia, who lately bequeathed a sum of money, burdened however with the support of his wife during her life, for the maintenance of a burfar, and of a lecturer in the College Chapel.

quired to attend a second lecture, twice every week, during the whole of their course, and few of the other students fail to attend it. They are examined in the higher classics, which the professor reads and explains; making occasional remarks on the peculiarities of the language, and giving lectures on Grecian history and antiquities.

Philosophical Course.—Though Greek became the department of a separate professor about the beginning of this century: Philosophy in its threefold division, as comprehending the sciences of quantity, of matter, and of mind, has continued to be taught by the same person during three successive sessions. This method has always had its zealous advocates; in the number of these was the late Dr Reid, who had experience of both plans, having taught for many years in this University, and afterwards in that of Glasgow. It certainly possesses some advantages especially when considered in its relation to the local circumstances of this University. In a village, where parents cannot have acquaintance or relations, to whom they may intrust the superintendence of their children's conduct, it seems necessary that the connection betwixt the professor and student, should be more close and intimate, than can be the case in the rapid rotation of annual classes. The teacher being acquainted with the abilities and literary attainments of his pupil, and the student accustomed to the method and arrangement of his teacher, they may each be enabled to pass over with advantage, a larger extent of subject than could otherwise be accomplished in the same time. It seems to afford additional incitements to application and diligence. The student conscious that his conduct is watched with an almost parental solicitude, is anxious to secure the approbation of one, with whom he is more than transiently connected. The teacher considering himself as solely re-

sponsible for the progress and improvement of his pupil, is particularly interested in his attainments, zealous to convey important and useful instruction, and to fix solid and virtuous principles. Nevertheless, the College impressed with a sense of the importance and extent of the sciences, which thus alternately devolve on the same person, and considering that in the present state of knowledge, it is not probable he can attain eminence in each, whatever his assiduity or talents may be; has, as a preparatory step towards farther improvement (if it shall be found such,) resolved to fix for a time the mathematical class.

Though the method of teaching and arrangement of subjects adopted by each professor must necessarily vary to a certain degree, yet that generally practised in this University, seems well calculated to lead the minds of youth in a natural progression to the attainment of useful science. The professors in the philosophical department teach three hours every day of the week, except Saturday and Sunday; on Sunday they, as well as the professor of Greek, lecture one hour on some subject connected with natural theology.

Semi Class.—The second year of the academical course is employed in teaching the elements of the mathematical sciences. The students are supposed to be previously acquainted with the art of computation as taught at our schools; they are now instructed in the theory of numbers and the foundation of the rules of arithmetic. Algebra, the elements of plane and solid geometry, trigonometry, mensuration of plane surfaces and solids, with spherics, are included in the business of this year. The professor gives occasional lectures on geology and the meteorological branches of natural history.

Tertiar

Tertian Class.—After a brief recapitulation of the subjects of the former year, the professor proceeds in the third year to dialling, conic sections, and fluxions: exercises in the last are continued through the remainder of the course. Experimental philosophy in its several branches, mechanics, hydrostatics, pneumatics, aerology, magnetism, electricity, &c. occupies the remaining part of the session.—The philosophical apparatus has lately been much improved by donations from alumni; and by means of a considerable annual revenue now set apart for that purpose, promises to be soon placed upon the most respectable footing.

Magistrand Class.—The science of astronomy employs the beginning of the fourth year, and completes the physical part of the course. Under the term moral philosophy, which forms the principal part of the instruction of the fourth year, is comprehended every thing that relates to the abstract sciences, or the philosophy of mind; particularly pneumatology, or an analysis of the mental faculties, whether of an intellectual or active nature; natural theology; ethics, or practical morality; logic, including rhetoric, together with economics; jurisprudence, and politics. According to the ancient practice of this University, logic, and the abstract sciences, took precedence, in the order of the curriculum, of mathematics and natural philosophy. It was then believed that the elements of the other sciences must be taught to disadvantage, while the student remained ignorant of the art of reasoning and the rules of judging: but mankind are now fully convinced of the inefficiency of the syllogistic art, to guide the understanding in the discovery of truth. The logic which can answer this end must have, for its groundwork, all arts and sciences, and be founded on an analysis and natural history of the intellectual faculties. Every illustration

tration and maxim must be derived from these sources, and its rules can be understood no farther than the several sciences, which it reviews and criticises, are understood. Nor is a previous knowledge of its precepts necessary towards acquiring the elements of science. Man exercises his understanding before he is formally instructed in the rules of reasoning. Upon these accounts, logic, together with the other abstract sciences, seem more naturally to occupy the last than the first part of a philosophical course; and actuated by such considerations, about 40 years ago, the teachers at this University adopted the above mentioned arrangement of subjects.

Humanity Class.—During the whole of their academical course the students attend, three hours every week, the professor of humanity, who reads and explains the higher classics.

Session of College.—The duration of the session of College has been for a considerable time past, five months, commencing on the first Monday of November. At first view this may appear rather a short period to allow of the prelections which have been mentioned; but it should be observed, that the professors teach three hours daily, without any vacation during the whole session.

Theology.—The theological session commences about Christmas, and closes the second week of April. During its continuance, the professors of divinity in King's and Marischal Colleges, lecture alternately four days in the week; the same students attending both. By these means, during the four years in which the study of divinity is generally prosecuted, a pretty compleat course of theology is gone through in the following order: The evidences of natural and revealed religion;

gion; scripture criticism; the system of theology; and ecclesiastical history; and the pastoral care.

Oriental Languages.—During the theological session, the students who attend the hall have also access to lectures in oriental languages. No honorarium or fee is paid by the students in the theological department. In the Greek and philosophical departments, the fee paid by the bursars, is from a guinea to a guinea and a half; the minimum paid by the free students is at present two guineas.

Law.—The suppression of the professorship of canon law has already been noticed: that of civil law still subsists; but the study of it not being prosecuted in this part of the country, no lectures have been given for a long time past, in this branch of science.

Medicine.—Medicine has hitherto been a branch of education which the University have been anxious to promote; but from different causes, it has not succeeded; chiefly owing to the detached situation of the College, with other particular local disadvantages, and there being but one medical professor in the University. Several of the incumbents have made various attempts; and amongst others, the late Dr John Gregory of Edinburgh, at that time professor of medicine in King's College, who, with Dr David Skene, physician in Aberdeen, (an eminent anatomist,) opened a class in the town of Aberdeen for teaching anatomy, physiology, and the practice of medicine; but they met with no success, and were obliged to relinquish the plan. A similar attempt was made in the year 1792, by Dr Chalmers, which likewise failed. And at present, the several obstacles, which then occurred, still exist.

Degrees.

Degrees.—The candidates for degrees in arts, if they have studied at this College, must, by express statutes, have regularly attended the curriculum or philosophy course, as well as have undergone a strict examination in its various branches. If they pass this examination with honour, they generally receive the degree publicly from the professor who has carried them through their course; when each delivers an oration either in Latin or English upon some subject of a philosophical nature. The degree in arts is also granted to those who have studied at other Universities, upon the certification of at least two respectable graduates of the same rank, that the candidate is in every respect well qualified for the honour. Degrees in law, medicine, and theology, are conferred upon the similar certification of respectable graduates of the same rank, or in consequence of examination by the promoters in those various faculties. They are also sometimes bestowed without regard to standing in any University, as a mark of respect, upon men eminent in their profession, or distinguished by their literary talents.

Library.—The library to which all the students have ready access is a valuable collection of books in the various departments of literature. By means of the Stationers' Hall Act, and the application of a considerable annual revenue, it is well supplied with modern publications. It is particularly well stocked with old and valuable works of science; having been enriched by the libraries of the founder, the Scougalls, father and son, and various other eminent literary characters.

Museum.—A museum of natural history has been gradually furnished for the use of the students, with a pretty large assortment of specimens in mineralogy and zoology, many of them bestowed by private donors. There is also a collection,
under

under the name of a Museum of Antiquities, containing Greek and Roman coins, casts in sulphur from ancient gems, and some of the more valuable books of engravings, relative to this subject. A considerable addition was made to this collection, about the year 1790, by a donation of the coins and medals of the late reverend Doctor Cumming of Andover.

Elocution, French, &c.—The professors encourage the best masters for elocution, French, and other branches of education, not commonly reckoned academical, for the instruction of such students as may wish to apply to them.

Discipline and Internal Economy.—The students at this College since the period of its foundation have been distinguished into two classes: 1st, the bursars; 2d, the free scholars, who are known by the name of libertines. Of the bursars, 13 were instituted by the founder; the rest derive their support from sums of money or lands mortified or bequeathed at various periods by different donors for that purpose. Some of these donors have retained the right of presentation to these bursaries to themselves and heirs; others have vested it solely in the College. Those bursaries which are in the gift of the College, and which amount to about 50, are disposed of according to merit, ascertained by a comparative trial, in various Latin exercises. This competition takes place at the commencement of each session, and provides annually for 12 or 13 bursars, being a fourth part of the whole number. The number of students who attend the philosophical course is from 100 to 130; that of students of divinity from 50 to 70. The founded bursars were anciently distinguished from the libertines by wearing a black gown instead of a red; and were also obliged to stand porters at the

College gate ; but these marks of inferiority are now discontinued. The bursars have to discharge several public duties ; with the exception of which, they are in every respect upon the same footing as the libertines. They are in their turns the censors in their respective classes, which office obliges them to mark those who are absent at the hours of teaching, or who are guilty of any other act of delinquency. A class of the more advanced among them also assume in their turns the office of *public censor* ; the duties of which are to mark the absentees from public prayers, and to take notice of the more public acts of delinquency. Every morning during the session there are public prayers previous to the hours of teaching, in the College Chapel, at which all the students regularly attend. The duty of public prayers is taken for a week in succession by the regents, and professors of humanity ; the person thus officiating is called Hebdomader, and is considered as the more special superintendant of the morals of the students during his continuance in office. In the same chapel, the students assemble on Sundays, and proceed to church, conducted by their respective professors ; but there being no religious test required of students at their admission into the University, such as are not of the established church are permitted to attend any place of worship which their parents direct. There is also a weekly meeting in the same place for public discipline, exercised by the sub-principal and regents ; on which occasion, the students of the higher classes deliver orations on various subjects. Formerly a very large proportion of the students lodged within the College, and ate at a public table, at which the bursars were all obliged to board, and the Hebdomader superintended ; but the institution was found to be attended with so many inconveniences, that it has been for some time abolished. At present, though there are no restrictions upon the students, in regard to lod-

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ging, yet in general the more opulent live within the College, where a boarding house is kept for their accommodation. The rate of boarding at this house is 6l. per quarter; at various houses kept in the town, it is from 3l. to 4l. a quarter.

The above account, comprehends a brief detail of every circumstance relative to this ancient seminary of learning, which the compilers of it have deemed worthy of public notice.

In the Appendix will be found a list, and some biographical notices of the Chancellors, Rectors, Principals, eminent Professors, and Alumni of the University.

KING'S COLLEGE, }
7th Nov. 1798. }

APPENDIX

TO THE

STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND KING'S COLLEGE OF ABERDEEN.



No. I.

CHANCELLORS.

1. **WILLIAM ELPHINSTON**, the founder, was grandson to Alexander Elphinston, killed at the battle of Piperden 1436. His father, John Elphinston, was a favourite with Lawder, Bishop of Glasgow. His mother, Margaret Douglas, was a daughter of the Laird of Drumlanrig. He was born 1431; made A. M. in the 25th year of his age, and priest of St. Michael's Church, Glasgow, where he served 4 years. He went to France in 1460, and after 3 years study was made, first, professor of law at Paris, and afterwards at Orleans. After 9 years residence in France, he was called home by his patron the Bishop of Glasgow. At his return he was made official of Glasgow; was called to Edinburgh by King James III. who made him official of St. Andrew's, and a lord of the privy council. He was sent to France with the Earl of Buchan and the Bishop of Dunkeld, to settle some differences with Lewis IX. and for renewing the ancient league; on his return, he was made Bishop of Ross 1482, and same year, Bishop

Bishop of Aberdeen. It appears that he was employed in many important affairs of state during the remainder of the reign of James III. and succeeded the Earl of Argyle as Chancellor of Scotland. Having retired to his diocese upon occasion of the insurrection of the Humes and Hepburns, which proved fatal to James III. the insurgents who had the young king in their hands, and wished Bishop Elphinston at a distance, sent him ambassador to the emperor Maximilian to propose a marriage between James IV. then 16 years of age, and Margaret the emperor's daughter. Before he arrived the lady was married to the prince of Spain. In his return he concluded a peace with the states of Holland. His History of Scotland, at least what is called so, is extant among Sir Thomas Fairfax's MSS. in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. It is divided into eleven books, and consists of 384 pages folio, in a small hand, full of contractions. He for the most part follows Fordun*.

King James IV. being slain at the battle of Flowden, and most of the nobility cut off, a Parliament was called to meet at Stirling, to settle the affairs of the nation, then in the utmost confusion. Bishop Elphinston resolved, notwithstanding his great age, to attend this Parliament, and set out on his journey, but sickened on the road, and died on the 6th day after his arrival at Edinburgh, in the 83d year of his age, anno 1514.

2. Bishop Alexander Gordon, anno 1516, third son of James Gordon, laird of Haddo, ancestor of the earls of Aberdeen. Died 1518.

3. Bishop

* From a late examination of this MS, made at the desire of the University, who were anxious to obtain a copy, it appeared that it was nothing else than a literal transcript of Fordun.

3. Bishop Gavin Dunbar, anno 1518, died March 1531. We have seen, in the Account, that he was Bishop Elphinston's executor, and compleated his benevolent purposes in such ample manner, as to be himself entitled to the credit of a pious founder.

4. Bishop William Stewart, 1532, who added both to the buildings and revenues of the College. Died 1544.

5. Bishop William Gordon, 1546. He was son to George, 2d Earl of Huntly, and died 1577.

6. Bishop David Cunningham.

7. Bishop Peter Blackburn.

8. Bishop Alexander Forbes.

9. Patrick Forbes of Corse, elected Bishop, 24th March 1618, died 28th March 1635. Of this learned and worthy prelate, the Account takes particular notice.

10. Bishop Adam Ballenden.

11. George, Marquis of Huntly, was elected Chancellor by the University, anno 1643, not long after the abolition of Episcopacy.

12. Bishop David Mitchell, was a minister in Edinburgh, and deposed by the General Assembly 1638; when he went into England, where he got a benefice. After the restoration 1661, being a prebendary of Westminster, he was created D. D. of Oxford. Episcopacy being restored in Scotland, he was consecrated Bishop of Aberdeen at St Andrews, along with Wiseheart, Bishop of Edinburgh, 1st June 1662, but did not enjoy this dignity a full year.

13. Alexander Burnett, was Bishop little above a year, being translated to Glasgow 1664.

14. Patrick Scougall, parson of Salton, and son of Sir John Scougall of that ilk, was made Bishop 1664; died 1682, being 73 years of age.

15. George Halliburton, of the family of Pitcur; he was minister

minister at Coupar in Angus; and afterwards Bishop of Brechin; from whence he was translated to Aberdeen 1682; he was turned out at the Revolution, and died, at his house of Denhead, in the parish of Coupar of Angus, 1715.

16. The Earl of Errol elected Chancellor of the University 1700.

17. The Earl of Errol, son of the former, chosen Chancellor 1705. He resigned the office 1716.

18. On the day of Lord Errol's resignation, Archibald, Earl of Ilay, was chosen Chancellor, but declined to accept the office.

19. The Duke of Roxburgh was elected, who, however, excused himself on account of the Earl of Ilay having a subsisting nomination and patent of election under the College seal. This high University office remained unfilled till after the death of the Earl of Ilay, who notwithstanding his declining to accept the office, yet always had among his other honourable titles that of Chancellor of the University of Aberdeen.

20. James Lord Deskfoord, afterwards Earl of Finlater and Seafield, elected Chancellor 1761.

21. Alexander, Duke of Gordon, elected Chancellor 1793.

No. II.

RECTORS.

1. ANDREW LIELL, Thesaurarius Aberdonen. 1498.

2. William Strathachin, Vicarius perpetuus Beatae Mariæ ad nives, 1499.

3. Alexander Cullan, Præbend of Oniyn, 1506.

4. Alexander Calloway, Canonicus Officialis Aberdonen. 1516 and 1521.

5. Gilbert

5. Gilbert Strathauchyn, 1531.
6. Alexander Spittal, Canonicus Aberdonen. 1537.
7. Alexander Hay, Canon. Aberdonen. 1539, one of the first alumni.
8. Jacobus Strathachan, de Belhelvie, 1542.
9. Alexander Gallaway, Præbendarius de Kinkel, 1549.
10. Nicolas Hay, Civilist and Com. Aberdon. 1592.
11. John Strauchane. He seems to have been minister of Kincardine O'Neal. He was Rector 1602, 1605, 1609, 1610, 1613, 1619.
12. John Leitch, elected Rector of the University and College by the Commission of visitation, 1619, under Bishop Patrick Forbes.
13. Joannes Strauchanus. Uncertain when in office.
14. James Sandilands, Canonist and Rector, 1626, 1627, 1628, 1630, 1631.
15. Doctor John Forbes of Corse, 1634. He was second son of Bishop Patrick Forbes; and by the death of his elder brother became his father's heir. He studied philosophy at the University of Aberdeen, and took his degree of A. M. He had his education in divinity at Sedan, under the famous Paræus, and in other universities of Upper and Lower Germany. He remained abroad at his studies till the year 1619. Next year he was chosen professor of divinity in the King's College, by his father and the synod of Aberdeen, upon the erection of that office, founded and endowed by them. In the year 1633, he quitted the divinity chair, and became one of the pastors of the town of Aberdeen: but in 1635, was called back to his former charge, by the bishop and synod. His place was declared vacant, anno 1643, by the General Assembly, the peculiar hardships attending which are mentioned in the Account. His literary character is well known from his publications. He died, at his house of Corse,
anno

anno 1648, in the 55th year of his age. What is very remarkable, his desire of being interred in the same grave with his venerable father, was refused by the clergy!

16. Doctor William Guild, 1635, 1639—1644.
17. Dr Alexander Scroggie, minister at Machar, 1636.
18. Dr Arthur Johnston, 1637.
19. Dr Alexander Ross, one of the ministers of Aberdeen, 1638.
20. Mr David Lindfay, parson of Belhelvie, 1645, 1647, 1648.
21. Mr William Scroggie, minister of Raffan, and afterwards bishop of Argyll, 1663—1665, and 1674.
22. Mr John Menzies, professor of divinity in Marischal College, 1667 and 1677.
23. Mr Robert Reynolds, minister at Machar, 1669.
24. Mr George Nicholson of Cluny, rector and civilist, 1672 and 1673.
25. Mr James Scougal, commissary and rector, 1684.
26. Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys, 1698.
27. Mr Archibald Forbes of Putachie, 1708.
28. Sir William Forbes of Craigievar, 1709, 1710, the descendant of Bishop Forbes.
29. John Farquharson, Esq. of Invercauld, 1711.
30. Arthur Forbes of Echt, Esq. 1718—1722, 1724—26.
31. John Paton of Grandhome, Esq. 1728, 1730, 1732, 1733.
32. George Middleton of Seaton, Esq. 1762—1767.
33. Sir William Forbes of Craigievar, 1786.
34. Alexander Burnett of Kemnay, Esq. from 1787 to 1795, and present Lord Rector of the University.
35. Sir John Macpherson, Bart. 1795—1797.

No. III.

PRINCIPALS.

1. HECTOR BÖETH, or BOYES; was born at Dundee, and educated at the University of Paris. Besides his History of the Scots, he also wrote "*Vita Episcoporum Aberdonensium*," dedicated to Bishop Gavin Dunbar. Bishop Elphinston called him from Paris, while teaching philosophy in *Collegio Montis acuti*, to be the first Principal of his College. Boyes calls himself at that time "*adolescens*," and modestly speaks of his small proficiency in letters, when he was sent to instruct others.

2. Mr William Hay, the fellow student of Boyes at Paris, and sent for by him to be first sub-principal of the College; succeeded Boyes as Principal, and lived till about the year 1540.

3. Mr John Bisset. He was first a regent, and, on the death of Principal Hay, was called to succeed him in consequence of a presentation from the Pope. But that being considered as contrary to the foundation, he was forced to resign, A. D. 1550, in favour of Mr Alexander Anderson, sub-principal, who was his competitor, and, who, during the life of Bisset, which lasted till about 1559, was designed in all public writings, *Subprincipalis Col. Reg. Aberdon. et officio Principalis*.

4. Mr Alexander Anderson, parson of Methlick, and vicar of Kinkell, succeeded to the full enjoyment of the principality on the death of Mr Bisset; farther notice has been taken of him in the Account.

5. Mr Alexander Arbuthnot; he was brother to the Baron of Arbuthnot, and parson of Arbuthnot and Logie. He went to France at the age of 23, where he applied to the study

dy of law; and, being made licentiate, returned to Scotland in 1566. In 1569, he was made Principal, and by his diligent teaching and good government, revived learning, and gained many over from superstition. He was a good poet, mathematician, divine, lawyer, and physician. He, with Mr Andrew Melville, had committed to them the reformation of the foundations of the Universities of Aberdeen and Glasgow. He procured for his College the gift of the deanry of Aberdeen. He wrote a book, printed at Edinburgh in 1572, intitled, 'Orationes de origine et dignitate Juris.' He died in the 45th year of his age, A. D. 1583.

6. Mr Walter Stewart, sub-principal, was elected Principal 1584, and died 1593, when he was only 36 years of age. He resigned the parsonage of Methlick in favour of the College, to which it was afterwards annexed by the king.

7. Mr David Rait, sub-principal, of the house of Hallgreen, in the Mearns. He was the first that received the degree of D. D. from the University after the Reformation. He bore the offices of regent, sub-principal, and Principal, about 50 years, and died in 1632.

8. Dr William Leslie, sub-principal, (who is mentioned in the Account,) was elected in 1633.

9. Dr William Guild; he was one of the ministers of Aberdeen, and made Principal 1641, after Dr Leslie's deposition. He himself was also deposed by the military visitation mentioned in the Account. He was one of King Charles I. chaplains, and wrote several religious tracts.

10. Mr John Row; he was one of the ministers of the town of Aberdeen, of the sect of Independants, and was appointed Principal by the English visitors, upon Dr Guild's deposition. The town council of Aberdeen gave him 400 merks for writing a Hebrew dictionary, which he dedicated to them,

11. Mr William Rait. He was minister of Brechin, had been a regent in the College, and was elected Principal in Mr Row's place, but continued in the office only for one year, having been translated to be one of the ministers of Dundee before taking up his residence in Aberdeen.

12. Mr Alexander Middleton. He had been minister of Rayne and Old Aberdeen, and afterwards regent, and sub-principal; from which last office he was deposed by the English visitors, at the same time with Dr Guild. He was elected Principal 1663, and was the first of the founded members of the College who married. His wife, Margaret Gordon, lived to the great age of 101, as appears from the parish register of Old Machar, in which both her birth and death are recorded.

13. Dr George Middleton, son of Mr Alexander Middleton. He was minister of Glammis, and afterwards regent, and sub-principal. He succeeded his father as Principal about the year 1684; but was ejected from his office by the Commission of visitation, anno 1717. He died, A. D. 1726.

14. Mr George Chalmers. He was minister of Kilwinning, and, after the deposition of Dr George Middleton, was made Principal, not by the election of the masters, according to the rules of the foundation, but by a royal presentation, A. D. 1718. He was also first minister of Old Machar.

15. Dr John Chalmers, present principal of the University, who had been formerly a regent, was elected Principal, A. D. 1746.

No. IV.

EMINENT PROFESSORS AND ALUMNI.

JOHN VAUS, first grammarian in the University, who subscribes the second foundation 1531. His Latin grammar, published at Paris 1522, is well known.

Mr James Lawfon, sub-principal, 1569. He was called to Edinburgh to succeed the famous John Knox.

Mr Robert Maitland, regent in the College, and afterwards dean of Aberdeen. In consequence of the grant by James VI. of the deanry, he resigned it in favour of the College, 1579.

Mr John Leslie, commissary of Aberdeen, afterwards bishop of Ross, and one of the senators of the College of Justice, celebrated for his fidelity to the unfortunate Queen Mary, and for his History of Scotland; was canonist in this University.

James Cheyne, who after going through a regular course of study at this University, taught philosophy at Paris in the College of St Barbe; from whence he was translated to Douay, and became L. L. D. and P. P. &c. In 1573, he published at Douay, a Compend of Aristotle's Philosophy. He also published at the same place, two books on the Terrestrial and Celestial Globes, a Geographical description of the Earth, and a Commentary on Aristotle's Metaphysics.

The famous Mr Andrew Cant, grammarian or humanist, 1614.

Mr William Douglass, professor of divinity in 1644. He printed the following treatises at Aberdeen: 1st, *Vindiciæ veritatis*; 2d, *Vindiciæ Psalmodiæ Ecclesiasticæ divinæ*; 3d, *Academiæ vindiciæ*; and several other tracts.

Mr

Mr George Nicolson, of Cluny and Kemnay, elected civilist in 1673; was afterwards one of the senators of the College of Justice, by the title of Lord Kemnay.

Mr Henry Scougall, son of Patrick Scougall, bishop of Aberdeen. After completing his studies at this University, he was immediately elected a regent, and afterwards professor of divinity. This amiable man, whose works are no less distinguished by their piety and learning, than by purity and elegance of style, was cut off at the early age of 28, when the promising hopes which had been formed of his talents and genius were just begun to be realized. He died, A. D. 1678.

Mr James Scougall, civilist in 1684, afterwards one of the senators of the College of Justice, by the title of Lord Whitehill.

The learned Sir George Mackenzie, King's advocate, and lord of the Scots privy council, anno 1674, received the first part of his academical education in this University. To him his country is indebted for many valuable works, illustrative of its laws, customs, and government.

Mr George Gordon of Haddo, an alumnus, and regent of the University in the year 1658. He was president of the Court of Session 1681; and in 1682, was appointed lord high chancellor of Scotland, and afterwards created Earl of Aberdeen.

Dr Thomas Bower, mentioned in the Account; being an eminent mathematician, he was employed by the Scots Parliament, about the time of the Union, in calculations relating to the Equivalent.

Mr John Kerr, professor of Greek, from 1719 to 1754, when he became professor of humanity in Edinburgh. He was an elegant classical scholar.

The Rev. Dr John M'Pherson, minister of Slate, and author of the well known dissertations on the antiquities of Scotland,

Scotland, and several beautiful Latin poems, was educated in this University 1724.

Dr John Gregory, regent, and afterwards professor of medicine in this University, before he was translated to Edinburgh: His literary character and professional abilities are well known.

The celebrated Dr Thomas Reid, was many years professor of philosophy in this University, before he was translated to Glasgow.

David Dalrymple, L. L. D. civilist in 1760, and afterwards one of the senators of the College of Justice, by the title of Lord Westhall.

Dr Alexander Gerard, professor of divinity, who was translated from the same chair in Marischal College in 1771, and whose writings are well known to the public. He died in 1795.

Dr James Dunbar, an alumnus, and 30 years professor of philosophy in this University, author of "Essays on the history of mankind in rude and cultivated ages," &c. died 1798.

In the present enumeration of eminent and learned men, particular notice should be taken of the late Mr Thomas Gordon, an *alumnus*, who died A.D. 1797, having been professor of humanity, and latterly of philosophy, in this University, for no less a period than 61 years. He continued to fulfil the duties of his office till the time of his death, which happened in the 83d year of his age. His attainments in the sciences, and in polite literature; his abilities as a teacher; his suavity of manners, and social disposition, are all well known, and will be long remembered. The compilers of the foregoing Account, embrace with pleasure, this opportunity, of paying their tribute of respect to his memory, and of acknowledging that they are indebted to him for a great part of the materials from which the Account has been digested.

This

This section might be drawn out to a great length, especially if it were to include living characters of eminence. Many other men of literature, who have been professors, or have had their education, in this University, will be found mentioned in Professor John Kerr's *Donnaides*; published at Edinburgh 1725.

HISTO-

HISTORICAL ACCOUNT

AND

PRESENT STATE

OF THE

MARISCHAL COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN.

Anno 1798.

FOUNDATION.

THE Marischal College and University of Aberdeen was founded and endowed by George Earl Marischal of Scotland, by charter, dated the 2d day of April 1593. By this charter, the Earl conveys to the Principal and masters of his new College, and to any other members to be afterwards added to them, the houses, garden, church, &c. which belonged to the Franciscan or Grey Friars, lying on the east side of the Broadgate of Aberdeen; also, the lands, crofts, tenements and feu duties formerly belonging to the Dominican or Black Friars, and the Carmelites or White Friars of Aberdeen, whose convents were respectively situated in the streets called the Schoolhill and Green, but demolished about the period of the Reformation. The property of the Franciscans had been acquired by the town of Aberdeen; and their buildings, being more entire and better situated than the others, were presented, by the community, to Earl Ma-

rischal, as a proper scite for the College. The charter also contains a grant of the property of the Carmelites lying at Bervie, where they had a small convent, and of the revenues of the chapel of St. Mary at Cowie, both in Mearns: but these last mentioned were resumed by the son and successor of the founder.

Original Members.—The original members consisted of a Principal, three regents or masters in philosophy and languages, six burfars, an œconomus and cook.

Duty of the Principal.—The duty of the Principal is declared to be, to attend to the whole University, and to every one of its members; and to exercise, with regard to them, ordinary jurisdiction. He is required to be well informed in the holy scriptures, in order to qualify him for opening the mysteries of religion, and the hidden treasures of the word of God; to be well skilled in the languages, especially the Hebrew and Syriac, which were to be taught by him once every week. He is appointed to explain the sacred writings one hour every Monday; to illustrate, from the Greek, the *Physiology of Aristotle*, beginning where the third or highest regent had left off, to which was to be added a short explanation of anatomy; to teach the principles of geography, chronology and astronomy, as also the Hebrew grammar, together with some practical application of the rules; to confer the degree of master of arts on those students who, after passing through the usual course of four years, should be found deserving of that distinction; and to superintend the public discipline of the College. He is likewise, in the charter, required, together with the chancellor, rector and dean of faculty, to prescribe the authors to be explained to the students, in the languages in which they originally wrote.

Duty

Duty of the Regents.—The regent next to the Principal was to teach the elements of arithmetic and geometry; explain, from the Greek, the ethics and politics of Aristotle, with the books of *Cicero de officiis*; and to conclude the course with Aristotle's physics. The duty of the third in order was, to instruct the students in logic, and exemplify his precepts by reading the best Greek and Latin authors; also, to exercise them frequently in composing and declaiming in both languages. The employment of the fourth was, to teach the elements of Greek, along with reading some of the easiest authors, both in that and the Latin tongue; to prescribe exercises for composition in those languages; and to finish with a short compend of logic.

Other Duties.—The Principal and regents, along with the bursars, are required to eat and sleep *intra septa Academiae*, where none of their wives or maid-servants are to be admitted. The students are appointed to convene, along with their masters, in the several schools, at six in the morning, from the first of October, when the session was to commence; to speak only Latin or Greek in public conversation; to wear gowns; to carry no arms or offensive weapons; to obey the laws enacted by the faculty; and for transgressions, to suffer expulsion, and pecuniary or corporal punishment.

Superior Officers.—The College is subjected, by this charter, to the authority of a chancellor, rector and dean of faculty; who are appointed to hold a visitation three times in the year, for the correction of abuses: and these officers are declared to have the same powers, privileges and jurisdiction, with those of St. Andrews, Glasgow, or any other university. The rector is to be chosen by all the *suppositi* of the University, divided into four nations, those of Mar, Buchan,

Moray, and Angus. These are required to elect four procurators or representatives, and these to elect the rector and four assessors. The dean of faculty is to be chosen in the same *comitia*, or assembly of the whole University, but by the Chancellor, Rector, Principal, Professors, and minister of New Aberdeen. It is requisite that the Principal and minister of New Aberdeen should always be present.

Confirmations of the Foundation.—In the succeeding General Assembly of the Church, which met at Dundee on the 6th of April in the same year 1593, the new institution was approved of, by an Act in the following terms: “The General Assembly of the Kirk, having imployit certane of the
“ godlie and best learned brether of thair number to the
“ fighting and considering of this fundatioune and erectioun,
“ following their judgement and approbatioun thair of, after
“ reasoning had in the matter, hes given and gives thair
“ consent and approbatioun thairto, and approves and affir-
“ mes the same in all the heidis thair of, after the tenour
“ and forme of the samen.”

The subsequent confirmation by Parliament runs in these words: “In the current Parliament holden at Edinburgh,
“ within the Tolbuith thair of, upon the twenty-first day of
“ July, the yeir of God one thousand five hundred fourscore
“ threttene yeirs. Our soveraine Lord and estaitis of this present
“ Parliament, understanding that George Erle Marischal, Lord Keith, &c. has laitlie foundit and erectit ane
“ College within the burgh of New Aberdeen, &c.: Thairfor his Hienes and estaitis foresaidis, ratifies, approvis and
“ confirms the said fundatioun and erectioun, with all the
“ clausies, articles, hedis and conditionis thairin contenit;
“ and farder givis and disponis thairto, all freedomes, franchises, liberties, free privilegis and jurisdiction, that to
“ anie

“ anie free College within this realme be law and practicke
“ is knawin to appertene, &c. &c.” Another Act of Parliament, passed after the Restoration, in 1661, confirms the foundation and privileges of the New University, almost in the same words.

Other Professorships founded.—In consequence of the provision made for that purpose by the original charter, several new professorships were afterwards added, viz. a fourth regent, who, by the commission of Parliament in 1700, for visiting schools and colleges, was appointed to be fixed professor of Greek. A professorship of mathematics was founded in 1613, by Dr Duncan Liddell, a native of Aberdeen, and eminent scholar, who had been professor of medicine and mathematics in the University of Helmstadt. A professorship of divinity, founded in 1616, by Mr Patrick Copland, minister of Norton, in Northamptonshire. A professorship in medicine, by the Earl Marischal, in 1700. A professorship of oriental languages, by Mr Gilbert Ramsay, rector of Christ Church, in the island of Barbadoes, in 1723. And lately in 1793, a professorship in chemistry, by Mrs Blackwell, widow of Dr Thomas Blackwell, formerly principal of the University.

A few years since, Sir William Fordyce, physician in London, also endowed a lectureship on subjects tending to improve the agriculture and manufactures of Scotland; but the salary being liferented by one of his relations, it has not as yet been carried into effect. The beforementioned Mrs Blackwell also appointed a premium of 10l. sterling, to be annually bestowed on the person who should compose and deliver, in the English language, the best discourse upon a given literary subject; the first five being prescribed by herself, and the succeeding ones to be proposed by the University. This has accordingly taken place for these two years,
and

and will be continued regularly hereafter. The last year's prize being adjudged to Mr William Duncan, one of the masters of the grammar school of Aberdeen, and that for the current year, to the Rev. George Skene Keith, minister of the gospel at Keithhall.

Bursaries.—In 1644, Sir Thomas Crombie, of Kemnay, made a donation, to the magistrates and town council of Aberdeen, as trustees and patrons, of certain lands in the neighbourhood, as an augmentation to the salaries of the professors, and a provision for eight bursars in the University, and also for a minister of the College, or Gray Friars Kirk. This is supposed to have been originally a weekly lectureship in theology, chiefly intended for the benefit of the students, as that church was never a parochial one, but along with the other buildings of the Gray Friars, was conveyed by Lord Marischal's charter to the College. This provision, the town council who are now patrons of both offices, seem from the beginning to have joined to Mr Copland's appointment for a professor of divinity, so that hitherto they have been always occupied by one person. Various other mortifications, or pious donations, for the education of bursars, have been made from time to time. In the year 1711, Dr Gilbert Burnett, bishop of Salisbury, by his last will, bequeathed the sum of 20,000 merks, as a fund for the education of four bursars in philosophy, and two in divinity, in this University, "*in remembrance of my education there,*" as he expresses it, the patronage to belong to the family of Burnett of Leys, of which he was descended. Four bursaries in philosophy, of 15*l.* sterling each, and four in divinity, of 25*l.* sterling each, were also endowed by Mr Gilbert Ramsay, formerly mentioned; the patronage of which is vested in the family of Ramsay of Balmain. Besides the above, there are
four

four in philosophy, left by Sir Alexander Irvine of Drum, under the patronage of that family; four by John Turner, Esq. of Dantzick; six by Dr Duncan Liddel; and of late, two, by a gentleman of the name of Lorimer; and one by Dr Ruddiman of Madras, with various others, amounting in all to between sixty and seventy in philosophy, from fifty marks in value to 8l. or 9l. together with eight or ten in divinity. Many of the smaller bursaries are however in the way of being increased; some of them by the rise of the value of the lands in which they were vested; and others, by being allowed to remain vacant for some time, the interest being yearly added to the capital. Of these philosophy bursaries, such as are in the gift of private patrons, are disposed of by them at pleasure; while those under the patronage of the town and College, between forty and fifty, are bestowed by annual competition about the end of October, upon the most deserving candidates, and as they continue for four years, ten or twelve become vacant every session. There are also two bursaries, of 12l. sterling each, for the education of students in the higher parts of mathematics, founded by John Gray, Esq. of London, in 1768; one of which is disposed of every year, by comparative trial, among such students as have attended the two first mathematical classes.

Union of the two Universities.—The King's and Marischal Colleges of Aberdeen being distinct and separate Universities, totally independent of each other, though scarcely a mile distant, it has often been proposed and attempted to unite them either into one university, or into one college. After the abolition of Episcopacy in Scotland, King Charles I. by a charter, dated the 8th Nov. 1641, makes a grant to both Universities of the rents of the bishopric of Aberdeen, for augmenting the salaries of the masters and other purposes, and

and unites *both Universities* into *one* in all time coming, to be called, THE CAROLINE UNIVERSITY; with this provision; that both shall enjoy and exercise all their primitive powers; privileges, and particular jurisdiction, which they had held and exercised before the said union took place. The two Colleges acquiesced in this union and erection, which was confirmed by an Act of Parliament of the same month and year. They accordingly enjoyed the conjunct possession of the bishop's rents for several years, and also of another donation afterwards granted by the protector Cromwell, in favour of the University of Aberdeen, and two Colleges thereof. They chose a common rector by turns, not judging it necessary or expedient to elect any superior magistrate, and submitted to Commissions of visitation under the great seal, addressed to the principals, professors, and masters of the University of Aberdeen. But Charles II. having restored Episcopacy in Scotland in 1661, the alienated rents of the bishoprics were resumed; and at the same time the bishop of Aberdeen, now reinstated in his office, and chancellor; *ex dignitate*; of the old College, laying claim to the same jurisdiction over the other, the Principal and masters maintained the privilege reserved to them by the charter of union, and refused to submit to any chancellor not elected by themselves. From this period, therefore, the Act of Parliament, confirming the union of the two Universities, being understood to be rescinded, along with the other acts of King Charles I. from the year 1637, the members of this University have elected and been governed by their own proper magistrate, and have had little public connexion or intercourse with that of Old Aberdeen.

Other Schemes of Union.—Several attempts, however, have since been made to unite the two seminaries, not only into

one University, but into one College, particularly in 1747; but, from the opposition of some individuals of the one or the other, hitherto without success. Upon the 8th of November 1754, after various meetings and consultations held for that purpose, all the members of both Universities unanimously agreed to, and subscribed certain articles of union, and applied to the Duke of Argyle, then at the head of affairs in Scotland, for his support and influence in rendering it effectual and permanent. By this agreement, the number of professorships in the united College was limited to the number then existing in King's College, with the single addition of a professor of mathematics; and of those offices, such as Greek, philosophy, medicine, &c. in which each College had a professor, the half was to be suppressed; one of these professors either resigning in favour of his colleague, or teaching the class alternately, until the death or resignation of one of them. The respective patrons of these double offices were to present by turns, and all the professors were to receive a considerable addition to their salaries, out of those to be suppressed. The only difficulty remaining to be adjusted was, whether the *locus*, or seat of the united College should be in New or Old Aberdeen? the Marischal College, with the magistrates of Aberdeen, and other patrons, insisting on its being placed in that city; while the members of King's College strongly maintained a contrary opinion. This point being therefore at last referred to the decision of the Earl of Finlater, he determined it in favour of New Aberdeen; but in consequence of fresh remonstrances and opposition on the part of King's College, the whole previous agreement fell to the ground, and the two Colleges remained separate as before.

After the failure of this attempt, no other endeavour appears to have been used to effect an union until the year

1786, when the Principal and professors of Marischal College, in conjunction with some of those of King's College, again projected a plan for uniting them into one, a measure which they judged would have been very much for the advantage of both, and of the greatest service to the education of youth over all the northern part of the kingdom. They also proposed to suppress a moiety of all those offices in which each College had a professor; but in place of sharing the salaries among the offices retained, they proposed employing them for the establishment of new professorships, such as were wanting in both; and by admitting of no sinecure places, to render the united College a complete school of education in law and medicine, as well as in all the other sciences. This scheme, having been first suggested by the Earl of Bute, at that time chancellor of Marischal College, was warmly patronized by many persons of rank, and communities, who were applied to on the occasion; but after a great deal of argument and discussion on both sides, was at length frustrated by the opposition it met with from a majority of the members of King's College.

Plan of Education.—How long the system of education appointed by the foundation charter continued to be observed, is unknown; alterations in it were no doubt enjoined by various Commissions of visitation issued by Parliament; and Aristotle at length resigned his empire to Bacon and Newton. But although the professorship of Greek was fixed in 1700, it was not until about forty years ago, that the old practice of one professor carrying forward the same class for three years, and teaching the whole circle of the sciences, was relinquished. This appears the more extraordinary, when we find that so early as the reign of King James VI. new foundation charters, said to be composed by Buchanan, were given

ven by that prince to more than one of our Universities, in which is the following clause: "Quatuor autem hos regentes nolumus, prout in regni nostri academiis olim mos fuit, novas professiones quotannis immutare, quo factum fuit, ut dum multa profiterentur, in paucis periti invenirentur; verum volumus in eadem professione se exercent, ut adolescentem qui gradatim ascendunt, dignum suis studiis et ingenii praeceptorem reperire queant"

In the year 1755, a new order of teaching was adopted in this University, by the unanimous approbation of all the members; an account of which was then printed for the information of the public. Of this arrangement and system of education, which has been successfully prosecuted ever since that period, with very little variation, the following is an abstract:

The order formerly observed in this College was that followed by most of the ancient philosophers, which was afterwards espoused by the scholastics, and generally adopted by all the Universities in Europe. They began with logic, then proceeded to ontology, pneumatology, morals, politics, and last of all, taught natural philosophy. The peripatetic philosophy, at least as far as it was espoused by the commentators and followers of Aristotle, was in a great measure made up of verbal subtleties, and theories, ill grounded, though ingeniously devised. These were supported by arguments moulded into an artificial form, the mechanism of which must first be understood, and it was laid open by the logic then in use. The chief business of that philosophy was to express opinions in hard and unintelligible terms; the student needed a dictionary or nomenclature of the technical words, and authorized distinctions; experiment was quite neglected; science was to be reasoned out from general principles, either taken for granted, or deduced by comparison of general ideas, or

founded on very narrow and inadequate observation. Ontology, which explained these terms and distinctions, and laid down these principles, was therefore introduced immediately after logic. By these two, the student was sufficiently prepared for the verbal, or at best, ideal inquiries of the other parts. But philosophy has since that time been happily reformed; and is become an image, not of human fancies and conceits, but of the reality of nature, and truth of things. The only basis of philosophy is now acknowledged to be, an accurate and extensive history of nature, exhibiting an exact view of the various phenomena, for which philosophy is to account, and on which it is to found its reasonings. This being the reformed state of philosophy, great inconveniences must be found in prosecuting the scholastic order of the sciences. The student must make a transition at once from words and languages to philosophy, without being previously introduced to the knowledge of facts, the sole foundation of, and preparation for it; he must be hurried at the first into the most abstruse, difficult, and subtle parts of it; he must be put upon examining the nature, foundation, and different kinds of evidence and reasoning, before he is acquainted with any specimens of these kinds, by which they may be illustrated; and in proportion as philosophy is more improved and more thoroughly reformed, such inconveniences must become more sensible. For these reasons the professors of the Marischal College were induced to alter the hitherto received order of teaching philosophy; and after the most mature deliberation, they resolved that their students should, after being instructed in languages and classical learning, be made acquainted with the elements of history, natural and civil, of geography, and chronology, accompanied with the elements of mathematics; that they should then proceed to natural philosophy, and last of all to morals, politics, logic, and metaphysics.

And

And if by adopting this order they avoid the inconveniencies above mentioned, and make the sciences follow one another, according to the natural connection of their subjects, and the gradual openings of the human mind, may they not expect the approbation of the public, and better fruits of their labours in forming the minds of youth, so that they may be possessed of knowledge more real in itself, and more useful for the various purposes of human life? The order of the sciences here established, was pretty much observed by some of the ancient stoics, particularly Panætius and Posidonius, and Epictetus also insinuates that he considers it as the proper method. In general, it agrees with the partitions of science laid down by Lord Verulam, and perfectly suits the genius of his philosophy. It appears to be that in which the sciences will afford most light to one another, and in which they will have the most happy influence on life.

1. The first year therefore is employed in classical learning under the professor of Greek, whose business it is, not only to teach that elegant language in which the sciences were first delivered, and which by retaining their original terms, and from being used by those great masters, whose works are still the acknowledged standards in them, must always be regarded as the foundation of learning, but to open the minds of youth, by explaining antiquity, by acquainting them with the lives and characters of the chief classic authors, and by pointing out the uses and advantages of literature for the various purposes of human life. As it is well known that the Greek language is little taught at our grammar schools in this country, and that an accurate knowledge of the elementary parts is of the greatest importance, the first part of the session is necessarily employed in teaching the grammar. The students then begin to read some of the easier parts of the Testament, Lucian's Dialogues, Æsop's Fables, and towards the
end,

end, are introduced to Homer and some of the other poets. Along with their reading, they are sometimes exercised in making translations of easy passages from the Greek, into Latin and English, in which the idioms of the several languages are compared and pointed out, and the scholar thereby acquires a more familiar acquaintance with the structure and peculiarities of each.

2. The subjects to which the attention of the students is principally directed in the next class, are history, civil and natural, along with Latin literature. The study of natural and civil history is judged to be a just intermediate step between the study of languages, and general reasonings concerning things. History conveys to a young mind instructions adapted to its faculties, which at the same time open and prepare it gradually for apprehending the conclusions of philosophy, that branch of science which can only be improved in proportion as history is perfected. Our knowledge in the one and the other must keep pace, for history relates the phenomena, and philosophy explains and accounts for them. The study of history therefore, particularly natural history, must be proper to precede that of philosophy, not only as it opens the mind, but also as it furnishes it with the requisite materials. As there are not separate appointments for these branches of education, the same professor lectures on history, and illustrates the classics at different hours. Impressed with a sense of the great importance of classical learning, he employs six meetings a week in illustrating the Latin classics. The students also continue to read Greek in the second class occasionally during the session. 1. In the classical department, the professor begins with a brief course of lectures and illustrations on ancient and modern versification, and points out those circumstances which distinguish the ancient verse from the modern. Of these discourses the students receive a printed

ed Latin abridgement. While reading the Latin poets, the students are not only exercised in scanning, but also accustomed to read according to the quantity; a practice which is attended with the best consequences; and if begun early, would wonderfully facilitate the composition of Latin verse. The Latin authors read in the second class are Virgil, Horace, Juvenal, Cicero, and occasionally, Tacitus. 2. As an introduction to civil history, a view is given of chronology and geography. Particular attention is paid to the revolutions of Greece and Rome, the Greek and Roman antiquities, and the progress of literature, philosophy, and the fine arts among the ancients. 3. Natural history comes next in order. This subject is comprehended under six heads: viz. meteorology, hydrology, geology, mineralogy, vegetation, zoology; the last whereof is introduced by a brief view of comparative anatomy and physiology: the students receive a syllabus of the whole. At the same time, the students in this class attend the professor of mathematics, for the elementary parts, as the knowledge of the mathematical sciences is an absolutely necessary key to the philosophy of bodies.

3. As material objects are the most familiar to young minds, and experiments and reasonings concerning them are most level to their capacities, the students in the third year of their course, enter on the study of natural and experimental philosophy, and are instructed in its several branches; viz. mechanics, hydrostatics, pneumatics, optics, astronomy, magnetism, electricity, and any others which new discoveries have added to the parts already cultivated. At the same time, they continue their application to mathematics, so as they may go hand in hand with their studies in the different objects of natural philosophy.

4. In the last year of the philosophical course are taught,
1. pneumatology, or the natural philosophy of spirit, including

ing the doctrine of the nature, faculties, and states of the human mind ; also natural theology. 2. Moral philosophy, containing ethics, jurisprudence, and politics ; the study of these being accompanied with the perusal of some of the best of the ancient moralists. 3. Logic, or the laws and rules of inventing, proving, retaining, and communicating knowledge. And lastly, Metaphysics, and rhetoric. Dr Beattie's *Elements of Moral Science* has been used as the text book in this class, for several years.

The professor of mathematics, during the first year the students are under his care, explains to them the principles of arithmetic, teaches the first six books of Euclid's elements of geometry, first principles of algebra, plane trigonometry, practical geometry in all its branches, principles of geography, and use of the globes. The second year, algebra, with its application to various kinds of calculation, elements of solid geometry, principles of perspective, navigation, spherical geometry, dialling, conic sections. The third year, he teaches the higher parts of algebra, genesis and properties of higher curves, methods of indivisibles, prime and ultimate ratios, &c. method of fluxions direct and inverse, higher parts of astronomy, with the detail of astronomical calculation. The instruments connected with the different branches, of which the University has a considerable number of the best construction, are exhibited, and their adjustments and uses explained. In every part of the course, the application of the principles to the practical arts of life is pointed out, and illustrated by examples.

Other particulars of College Economy, &c.—The three professors of philosophy and the professor of Greek attend their students three hours a day, and the professor of mathematics, at least one hour for each class, during the whole session of College,

College, which commences on the first day of November, and ends in April. The fees paid to the professors, and which have not been raised for many years, are for the lowest burfars, twenty merks, and for the higher, in proportion to the amount of their burfaries. The others, called free students, pay an honorarium of at least one guinea and a half, but more frequently two or three guineas. None of the students reside in the College, but are boarded and lodged in houses kept for that purpose, or with their friends. The number of students in philosophy varies from 120 to 140, of whom 10 or 15 are generally from England or the West Indies. Their conduct is as carefully attended to as possible; and every Friday, in the public school, the delinquents, whose names are marked in the catalogue, for the transgressions of the week preceding, are called out by the Principal in presence of the Professors, and punished by censure or fine, according to the fault. At this meeting also, the students, in the three higher classes, deliver Latin discourses upon subjects prescribed to them by their respective masters for that purpose. They all wear long scarlet gowns, with broad velvet collars, of the same form with those of the clergy of the Church of Scotland; attend prayers, which are pronounced by each of the four regents in his turn, to whom this duty belongs, every morning at eight, in the public school; and some weeks before the conclusion of the session, undergo a solemn examination, in presence of the Principal, Professors, and all who may chuse to attend.

The expence of living here was formerly extremely low, all the common necessaries of life being very plentiful and cheap. They are now considerably raised, yet young men of the best families are still boarded and lodged at the rate of less than thirty pounds a year; and the other expences for cloaths, books, and education, need not exceed twenty pounds

more. The poorer sort do not expend one half of that sum. If the student remains only during our short session of five months, his whole expence on the highest calculation, may be amply defrayed for thirty pounds, and the lower ranks in proportion. Some private families indeed admit boarders at a much higher rate. The present Principal boards and lodges in his house, and superintends the education of a few young gentlemen, for which he receives one hundred pounds per annum. A considerable number of students remain in town during the vacation, when they are attended by private tutors, and study drawing, music, modern languages, and other useful or fashionable accomplishments, for which there are many very well qualified teachers.

Divinity, and Oriental Languages.—There are generally from sixty to eighty students in divinity, who attend the lectures of the professors of King's and Marischal Colleges. Of this number, however, seldom more than one third gives regular attendance. The remainder, consisting chiefly of students engaged in teaching parochial schools in the country, or as tutors in gentlemens' families, hear only a few lectures, and deliver a certain number of exercises in each of the divinity halls. Of these, as before mentioned, eight or ten enjoy bursaries of ten pounds and upwards, to twenty-five pounds each. The students have a small library in this College, purchased chiefly by annual contributions among themselves, and tolerably well furnished with books suited to their studies. Each of the professors in divinity gives two lectures every week on different days, so that the students may enjoy the instructions of both. These they endeavour to arrange in such a manner, that they may form together, a regular course of theology. The general subjects discussed in order, are, the grand principles of natural religion; the Christian evidences; scripture criticism;

criticism; systematic and controversial divinity; the history of the principal controversies which have agitated the Christian church; and the pastoral care. The whole course is intended to be finished in four or five sessions.

As by the appointment of the Church of Scotland, every student of divinity must deliver, during the course of his theological studies, a certain number of exercises prescribed by the professors, whose instructions he attends; these exercises are exhibited, every week during the theological session in the halls of King's and Marischal Colleges; in the former, after the professor has finished his lecture; and in the latter, every Saturday in the forenoon. When the exercise is delivered, the professor first asks the opinions of the students present, and then proceeds to criticise the performance, and to point out the faults he has discovered, in sentiment, expression, composition, and delivery. The exercises required of every student are, 1st, A lecture, or a popular explanation of some passage of scripture; 2d, A homily, or sermon; 3d, An exercise and addition, that is, a critical analysis of some portion of the Greek Testament, together with an illustration of the doctrine it may contain; 4th, An exegesis, or Latin discourse on some theological question. The divinity session commences, in King's and Marischal Colleges, about the end of December, and concludes in the beginning of April. The detriment arising to the education of candidates for the sacred ministry, from the irregular attendance of so many students, has long been felt by the professors of both Colleges. In order to remedy this defect, as far as lay in their power, the synod of Aberdeen, at the instance of both professors in divinity, lately addressed to all the students within their bounds, an admonition on this subject, and appointed it to be read by the professors, in the halls. This has been already attended with beneficial consequences. At the same time,

the synod drew up an overture on the same subject, which they transmitted to the General Assembly of the Church, under the full conviction that some effectual remedy to the abuse to which it related, was desirable and necessary. This overture has accordingly been transmitted by the Assembly to presbyteries for their opinion.

The rules of the Church also require that students in divinity should apply to the study of the Hebrew language; but this class, having formerly been taught in a very superficial manner, was for many years little attended to. The present professor, however, being desirous of restoring a branch of education so useful and even necessary for the clergy, the two professors of divinity lately gave into the synod of Aberdeen, a representation on the subject. The synod accordingly earnestly recommended to all the students of divinity under their inspection, a more diligent application to that study, and particularly enjoined those holding bursaries, to give a strict and regular attendance on the Hebrew classes, during the whole period of their enjoying them. This recommendation, it is hoped, will be attended with the desired effect. The class for Hebrew in this University, now meets twice a day, for five days in the week, during the whole period of the session of divinity. Besides teaching the elements of the language, and reading the Old Testament with his pupils, the professor delivers discourses on textual criticism, Jewish antiquities, and other subjects connected with the study of the Hebrew scriptures. He also teaches the Arabic and Persian languages, in which several of his scholars have already made considerable proficiency.

Medicine —The office of professor of medicine was formerly considered almost as a sinecure, no lectures being read, or any duty being performed, unless giving attendance on such
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of the students as were sick, or occasionally dissecting such subjects as could be procured. The present professor, however, who has been but lately admitted, proposes, as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made, to deliver regular courses of lectures on anatomy, and other branches of medicine. He is one of the physicians and surgeons to the infirmary, where there is a great deal of practice to be observed both in surgery and medicine, and, as well as the professor of chemistry, and several other physicians, receives a few pupils, who are instructed in the various departments of these arts. The number of students in medicine amounts to about thirty, who besides receiving the instructions, and seeing the private practice of their masters, attend daily the infirmary, and frequently enjoy the benefit of public dissections. They have also formed among themselves a society, under the direction of their masters and some of the professors, from which they derive considerable advantage in the prosecution of their studies. Here the members are obliged in rotation, at a weekly meeting, to deliver discourses upon medical subjects, which at a subsequent meeting are submitted to general discussion, every member being required to deliver his opinion concerning them. They have likewise collected a very considerable number of books on medicine, and subjects connected with it, which are the property of the society. Along with these advantages, they farther enjoy that of attending the professor of chemistry, who gives a regular course of lectures on that subject, every year during the session of College. The course, however, is by no means confined to medicine, particular attention being also paid to the application of chemistry for the purposes of agriculture, manufactures, and the arts. The same professor likewise gives a course of lectures on chemical pharmacy, after the conclusion of the other. The medical student too, has an opportunity of attending

tending a course of botany, taught every summer, under the patronage of the College, by a gentleman who enjoys a small salary from the magistracy for that purpose.

With such previous education; these students generally resort to the University of Edinburgh, where they remain one or more years, according to their fortunes or other circumstances. From thence they frequently remove, without taking any degree, either into the army or navy, or to the British settlements abroad; and after some years practice, apply to the College where they have been educated, for the degree of M. D. This they frequently obtain upon proper testimonials, their merit and former characters being perfectly known to the professors. Degrees in medicine are also sometimes conferred upon strangers; but, in these cases, the formal attestation of two well known and respectable graduates in medicine are indispensibly requisite; and the fee, when any is received, is never less than sixteen pounds, which is divided between the public library and the professor of medicine. Many of these graduates have reflected the highest credit on their country, and some of them now enjoy the first honours and emoluments of the medical profession; and if, in a few instances, it may have been otherwise, the same is believed to have as frequently happened in most other Universities, whether at home or abroad. Degrees in law and divinity are also conferred; for the first, a fee is sometimes received, for behoof of the library; but for the last, never.

Patronage of Offices and Salaries.—The patronage of the offices of Principal, of the four regents, and the professor of medicine, was vested in the family of Marischal, and fell to the crown, after the Rebellion in 1715, by the forfeiture of that family. At the same time, almost all the professors were ejected

ected for their attachment to the unfortunate House of Stuart, having had the imprudence, along with many members of King's College, to avow their partiality for the Pretender, by a public address delivered to him at Fetteresso, even after the Rebellion was understood to be suppressed, by the defeat of his party at Sheriffmuir.—The patronage of the professorship of oriental languages belongs to the family of Ramsay of Balmain; and those of divinity and mathematics, to the magistrates and town council of Aberdeen; but the last has sometimes been bestowed, agreeably to the appointment of the founder, by solemn comparative trial among candidates convened by a public program; the professors of mathematics in all the other Scots Universities being invited as judges. The office of professor of chemistry is under the patronage of the University.

The chief part of the salaries of the principal and regents arises from the rents of lands and feu duties in the vicinity of Aberdeen, formerly belonging to the Dominican and Carmelite friars. These were originally of so small value, that by the foundation charter, the salary of the principal was fixed at three chalders of bear, and one hundred merks in money; and those of the regents at twenty-four bolls of bear, and forty pounds Scots each. It has happened however, from the rise in the value of lands, and especially from feuing out for building some crofts of land, in, and adjoining to the town, that these small salaries have been gradually augmenting, and now amount to about fifty pounds sterling for each of the masters. To this is to be added a sum of about fifty pounds more, arising from Sir Thomas Crombie's mortification, which is equally divided among the principal and four regents.

In 1699, King William made a grant, which has been since continued, of three hundred pounds sterling per annum,

num, payable out of the bishop's rents of Aberdeen and Moray; two thirds whereof were assigned to the College of Old Aberdeen, to enable them to repair their ruinous buildings, and one third to the Marischal College. Of this money, certain specified sums are appointed for the augmentation of salaries, and for establishing two burfaries in divinity; and the remainder, for the payment of debts, and other public purposes of the University. These burfars are chosen in the following manner: Upon a vacancy, the Principals and professors of both Colleges meet together, and make up a list of three candidates, who have passed through their course of philosophy, and received the degree of A. M. at either College. This list is transmitted to the Barons of Exchequer, who nominate one of the three to be King's burfar in theology; and upon producing his presentation, he is admitted to the enjoyment of his burfary, which continues for four years, and is ten pounds per annum. The College also receives annually one hundred and five pounds sterling, under the name of royal bounty, by virtue of a grant from Queen Ann, which has been since renewed at the commencement of every reign, payable out of the civil establishment of Scotland, and appointed to be applied towards augmenting the salaries of the professors. Yet, notwithstanding this allowance, and that from the bishop's rents, together with the rents of the original College property, and those arising from Sir Thomas Crombie's mortification, none of the salaries exceed eighty pounds per annum, excepting those of the Principal, and professor of mathematics, which are upwards of one hundred pounds. The precise amount of any of them cannot be exactly stated, being subject to small variations, arising from the high or low prices of grain, and other causes.

College Buildings, &c.—Very little now remains of the old Franciscan monastery, unless the church, of which the walls, with a fine Gothic window, are still entire. Some years since it was shortened about twenty feet, a new aisle built for the accommodation of the students, and new roofed, at the expense of the town of Aberdeen. It being now their property, a minister is appointed to it by the magistrates and town council, but without any parochial duty. The monastery having become ruinous, the greater part of the present buildings of the College was constructed about 1676, and an additional wing in 1739; but having been ill designed, and erected at different times, they are neither regular, elegant, nor commodious. They contain a common school of 76 feet by 22; a public hall, and library room of the same dimensions; a divinity hall; five other schools or teaching rooms; an apartment lately fitted up for a museum; another for the apparatus in natural philosophy; and lodgings for three of the professors. There are also detached from the other buildings, a laboratory and teaching room for the use of the professor of chemistry, and dwelling houses for the two College servants.

In the public hall are a good many paintings, but few of any considerable merit. There are portraits of several sovereigns of the family of Stuart; of the founder of the University; of the late Earl Marischal, and his brother General Keith; of the Earl of Bute, lately chancellor of the University; of Bishop Burnett;—together with one of Dr Arthur Johnston, and several others, by Jameson.

Library, Museum, &c.—The library originally consisted of no greater collection than what belonged to the Franciscan friars, containing most of the schoolmen and monkish writers, and particularly a good number of the Latin fathers in

vellum MSS. together with some few of the classics, Horace, Lucan, Martial, &c. also in MSS. It afterwards received a considerable addition from Dr Duncan Liddell, of the ancient physicians and mathematicians, Greek, Latin, and Arab, and of the most eminent moderns who had written on these subjects in his own times. Its chief benefactor, however, was Mr Thomas Reid, secretary for the Latin language to King James the VI. In his travels through the greater part of Europe, he purchased the best editions of all the classics, that were printed from the time of Aldus Manutius, until the year 1615, including the philosophers, lawyers, Greek and Latin fathers, with the works of the chief critics, the Scaligers, Casaubon, Lambinus, &c. who flourished during that period; also several curious MSS. and particularly an Hebrew Bible, of most beautiful writing, supposed by Kennicott to be the work of the 12th century. This entire collection he left to the Marischal College, together with a salary for a librarian of six hundred merks per annum, under the management of the magistrates of Aberdeen, but which was afterwards reduced to 14l. 3s. 4d. sterling. It has since received considerable additions by the libraries of several private persons, particularly the Rev. Mr Dunlop, Dr Alexander Reid, Mr Lorimer, and the Rev. Mr Primatt, with other donations of curious or valuable books of drawings, antiquities, &c. from various noblemen and gentlemen connected with the University. Among others, are the ancient Popish service book of the cathedral church of Salisbury, finely illuminated, left by Bishop Burnett, with several other MSS. breviaries, missals, &c. full of miniature paintings, and other ornaments. In 1782, the Earl of Bute, then chancellor, made a present to it of about 1400 volumes, chiefly on medicine, and subjects connected with it; and since that period, has also been received, the medical library of the late Sir William Fordyce

of London, a native of Aberdeen, and alumnus of this College. The late Dr Donaldson, professor of oriental languages, also bequeathed to it his collection of books in that department of literature.

In the charter chest are preserved some of the Papal bulls and foundation charters belonging to the Franciscan, Dominican, and Carmelite monasteries, together with the ancient writings and title deeds of the lands and feu duties bestowed very liberally on some of these societies, from the beginning of the 13th century, down to the Reformation. Some of these are curious, and serve to throw considerable light on the ancient state of this city and its neighbourhood. Here also is preserved, an authentic instrument drawn up and subscribed by seven public notaries, containing an accurate description of the Regalia of Scotland, upon occasion of their being lodged in the castle of Edinburgh at the Union of the kingdoms, which was deposited at that time among the College archives by the Earl Marischal.

The museum contains a small, but increasing collection of specimens in the various departments of natural history, especially in mineralogy; also a good many serpents and other animal productions, preserved in spirits; together with a considerable number and variety of natural and artificial curiosities. Among other articles, are an Egyptian mummy, in very bad preservation; a beautiful antique statue of Esculapius; the staff of office belonging to the Earls Marischal of Scotland; and a set of casts of ancient gems selected from Tassie's vast collection. Here is also an elegant gold box, presented by the Earl of Buchan to the University in 1769, inclosing a silver pen, for which a competition is annually held among the students of the Greek class, and the successful candidate rewarded by a present of a book, and a silver medal with his name inscribed on it, appended to the pen. There are like-

wife kept here, the dies and some copies of a gold medal, with a suitable device, appointed by the will of the late John Gray, Esq. of London, to be bestowed on such of his mathematical burfars as fhould difcover an uncommon genius for thefe fciences, upon certification by the profeffor, that they have produced fome invention or improvement therein, deferving of this mark of diftinction. The premium has hitherto been only once conferred, viz. in 1795, in favour of Mr James Skene, now in a medical department in the Eaft Indies. The medal is of the weight of two ounces of gold. To thefe may be added the common feal of the Univerfity, bearing the arms of the family of Marifchal, and of the city of Aberdeen, united: the creft, ratlier expreffive of the vanity of the inventors, is a meridian fun, with the motto, "Luceo."

The apparatus for teaching natural philofophy, in mechanics, hydroftatics, pneumatics, optics, electricity, &c. is efteemed very complete, and perhaps equal to any in the united kingdom. Among other articles, it contains a large collection of models of the moft ufeul machines in various arts and manufactures, of the beft workmanfhip, and with the lateft improvements. For this collection the College is indebted to a liberal grant, continued for feveral years, from the Board of Truftees for promoting Fisheries and Manufactures in Scotland. All the models, together with the greater part of the apparatus, have been executed by an artift of this city, under the direktion of the prefent profeffor. By means of this extenfive apparatus, he is enabled, befides his regular courfe of fcientific lectures, to give occasionally a popular courfe of experimental philofophy, the chief object of which is the praftical application of this fcience to the arts, and the common purpofes of life.

Obfervatory

Observatory.—A small but commodious observatory was erected on the Castle hill of Aberdeen, in the year 1781, upon a spot of ground granted by the magistrates for that purpose, and finished and furnished with instruments by the benevolent assistance received from the Earl of Bute, then chancellor of the University, but chiefly by contributions from the gentlemen of the town and neighbouring country. It consisted of two circular rooms, of about 12 feet diameter, having moveable roofs and apertures for the observations; to which was afterwards added a third apartment for the equatorial instrument and other apparatus. It was provided with the following instruments :

A transit telescope, of four feet focus, and three inches aperture; by Ramsden.

A moveable quadrant, of two feet radius, made by Macculloch, and divided with great accuracy by Troughton.

A very superb equatorial instrument, with circles of eighteen inches diameter, originally made by Sisson; but afterwards divided anew, and an achromatic telescope, with refraction apparatus, added by Ramsden.

A double achromatic telescope, of four feet focus, and two and three fourth inches aperture, moving on a polar axis, and having a divided object glass micrometer; by Dollond.

A Newtonian reflecting telescope, of five feet focus, by Hearne; and a twelve inch Gregorian telescope, by Short.

A time keeper, with a Gridiron pendulum, by Mariott.

An assistant clock, for counting the minutes and seconds, by the stroke of a hammer upon bells; made by Gartly, Aberdeen: also, an alarm clock, barometer, thermometer, &c. The equatorial and transit instruments were presented by the Earl of Bute. An astronomical clock, exhibiting various motions of the celestial bodies. Also, an orrery.

In the observatory, the construction and adjustments of
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the different instruments, the method of making observations, with the calculations and results deduced from them, were explained to the students. Here also a regular series of observations was kept for several years, of some of which, relating to the longitude and latitude of the observatory, the result is published by Dr Mackay, by whom many of them were taken, in the 4th volume of the Edinburgh Philosophical Transactions.

The want of accommodation for an observer, and the distance of the observatory from the College, which was considerable, rendering a constant course of observations almost impracticable, only such as were of importance continued afterwards to be taken, until about two years since, when the situation being judged necessary to be included in the space of ground allotted for the building of barracks, and the very spot wanted for a powder magazine, it was of course demolished. From a proper representation however of these circumstances, by the Earl of Mansfield, late chancellor of the University, a sum of money has been obtained from government, as an indemnification for the loss sustained, and to enable the College to build an observatory in another place. With this money, a large apartment is now constructing over a part of the College buildings, which from its commanding a more complete view of the horizon, from its contiguity, and other conveniences, is expected to answer the purposes of an observatory even better than the former. Its height above the level of the court is about sixty feet; but such is the position, extent, and solidity of the intersecting walls, that, excepting perhaps in the case of violent storms, when observations can seldom be taken in any situation, it is expected, that with proper precautions, the instruments will be as little liable to tremor as before. Here will be a room of about forty feet by eighteen, with three small cupolas, two
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of these being moveable for the quadrant and equatorial, and the third fixed for the transit instrument. Adjoining to this room is a small balcony, for taking observations of eclipses, &c. in the open air, with the telescope, and within hearing of the assistant clock. In this room will also be contained a collection of books on the mathematical sciences, purchased with a small fund appropriated to that peculiar purpose by Dr Liddel, who endowed the mathematical professorship.

Eminent Persons.—Among the persons distinguished by superior rank or literary reputation, who have received their education at this University, or have held offices in it, may be mentioned the following names :

Mr Thomas Reid, Latin secretary to King James the VI. who was before taken notice of, as having bequeathed to it his whole collection of books, and founded the office of librarian.

Sir Robert Gordon of Straloch, an eminent scholar, who published the first accurate set of maps of this part of the kingdom, towards the middle of the last century.

Gilbertus Jacchæus, or Jack, M. D. who writes on physics and metaphysics, and died professor of philosophy in the University of Leyden, in 1628.

Dr Patrick Dun, the pupil and friend of Dr Liddel, who writes on medicine, in which he received a degree at Basil in 1667. He bequeathed very ample funds for the support of the grammar school of Aberdeen, and expended a considerable sum in repairing the College buildings, of which he was Principal, and died in 1652.

Dr William Johnston, of the family of Caskieben, who, after having taught philosophy in the University of Sedan, was the first person who occupied the mathematical chair in this University. Also his younger brother,

Dr Arthur Johnston, author of the well known translation of the Psalms, and other elegant Latin poems. Having received the degree of M. D. at Padua in 1610, he afterwards settled in France, where he remained until about 1633, and then returning to his own country, was appointed physician to King Charles the I. He died at Oxford in 1641.

Dr Gilbert Burnett, Bishop of Salisbury, the well known author of many works, whose valuable donations to the College were formerly mentioned.

Dr James Gregory, professor of mathematics in the University of St Andrews, and afterwards in that of Edinburgh, and inventor of the reflecting telescope, named from him, the Gregorian.

Dr Robert Morison, an eminent writer on botany, of which he was appointed regius professor in the University of Oxford.

Mr James Gibbs, the architect, who gave the designs for many churches in London, and other public buildings, particularly for the Radcliffe library at Oxford, which is much admired.

Dr John Arbuthnott, physician to Queen Ann, the intimate friend of Pope and Swift, and author of several works.

Dr James Mackenzie, physician in London, author of the History of Health, &c.

Mr Colin Maclaurin, who held the office of professor of mathematics in this University, and afterwards removed to Edinburgh in 1727.

The late George Earl Marischal of Scotland, whose estates were forfeited in 1715, and who died at Berlin in 1778, and his brother,

General Keith, field marischal in the service of Prussia, who was killed at the battle of Hochkirchen in 1758.

To these ought to be added—

Dr Thomas Blackwell, author of the *Life of Homer*, *Court of Augustus*, &c. And,

Dr George Campbell, lately deceased, whose writings are well known; both Principals of the University.

Another eminent literary character, Dr Thomas Reid, late emeritus professor of philosophy in the University of Glasgow, also received his education here, where, being descended from Secretary Reid, formerly mentioned, he enjoyed the office of librarian for several years. Also,

Dr Alexander Gerard, author of *Essays on Taste*, *Genius*, &c. who successively held the offices of professor of moral philosophy and divinity, in this University.

Present Members of the University.—The right honourable William Lord Auckland, chancellor.

Sir Alexander Ramsay Irvine of Balmain, Bart. lord rector.

Alexander Burnett, Esq. of Strachan, advocate, dean of faculty.

Thomas Leys, Esq. provost of Aberdeen, John Niven, Esq. of Thornton, Alexander Young, Esq. merchant in Aberdeen, and the Rev. Dr John Glennie, assessors to the lord rector.

The Rev. Dr William Laurence Brown, Principal, and professor of divinity.

Dr James Beattie, professor of moral philosophy, and Mr George Glennie, his assistant and successor.

Mr Patrick Copland, professor of mathematics.

Dr Robert Hamilton, professor of natural philosophy.

Mr John Stuart, professor of Greek.

Mr James Beattie, professor of history, and Latin literature.

Dr William Livingston, professor of medicine.

Dr George French, professor of chemistry. And,
Mr James Kidd, professor of oriental languages.

Improvements suggested.—Of the improvements still wanting to render the course of education more complete in this University, the public will in some measure be enabled to judge from the foregoing account of it; the following however are briefly suggested for their consideration.

The establishment of some new professorships is obviously necessary for this purpose, particularly one for humanity or the Latin language, unless such an arrangement could be adopted, as would enable the present professors of languages to extend their instructions to the other classes, as well as those immediately under their care. This appears the more necessary, as it is suspected, that the knowledge of Latin is rather on the decline, over all this part of the united kingdom; which may be imputed in part, to children being sent to school, and thence to the University at too early an age, but chiefly to the present situation of the parochial schools. Here, the emoluments are so very inadequate to the decent support of a public teacher, that they are chiefly occupied by boys at college, or others still worse qualified, and in such circumstances, no one will chuse to remain longer than he can find another employment more advantageous.

In the medical department there are already two professors, but to establish any tolerable school of physic, several others would be necessary. A professor of astronomy would also make an useful addition to the present number, as the various subjects taught by the professors of mathematics and natural philosophy, leave them but very little leisure for teaching this agreeable and useful science. A ready furnished observatory also affords great encouragement for such an establishment, where the same person might be fully employed
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in making and recording a regular series of observations. It would likewise be of very great service to the course of education, that a separate professorship was established for the study of rhetoric and the belles lettres; and in the theological department, another for ecclesiastical history.

An addition to the buildings of the College would also be very useful, the present consisting of too few apartments, and being otherwise incommodious. For this purpose the funds of the College are totally inadequate, being scarcely sufficient to answer the expence of necessary repairs. The annual sum permitted to be appropriated to the use of the library is very small, and now that the price of books is so much increased, will by no means admit of the purchase of many valuable modern works. Nor has the Marischal College even the full benefit arising from the books entered in Stationers' hall, as only one copy being sent to Aberdeen, the right of keeping them has been adjudged to the senior University, though they are declared to be the joint property of both. For the chemical class likewise, there being no public fund for supplying utensils and instruments, an apparatus is wanted, more complete and on a larger scale than the one presently in use, furnished at the private expence of the professor.

Another improvement, which has been frequently proposed, but from prejudice, the result of ancient custom, never carried into effect, is the prolongation of the session of College. At present it continues only for five months, which, besides being attended with other inconveniences, obliges the professors to meet with the students no fewer than three times a day, and to conduct and conclude their courses more rapidly than would be necessary in a longer session. This, with almost any other deviation from former practice, can only be made by the mutual consent of both Universities,

which, from various circumstances, is not always to be expected. In this case too, such an alteration might be unfavourably received even by the public, who have been long accustomed to the present period; especially from its occasioning less expence to the parents, and being better suited to the low state of many of the burfaries.

The best and most natural remedy for these, or other imperfections in the present state of both Universities, would perhaps be found, in bringing about that union of them, which has been so frequently attempted. By such means, every deficiency in the number of professorships might be amply supplied, and a complete seminary of education in every useful science, at once established, for the benefit of all the northern parts of Scotland. The united number of students would by no means exceed those in various other Colleges, while the very low rate of board and lodging, would enable many young men to prosecute the study of law or medicine, who cannot afford the expence to be incurred, by attending some of our other Universities.

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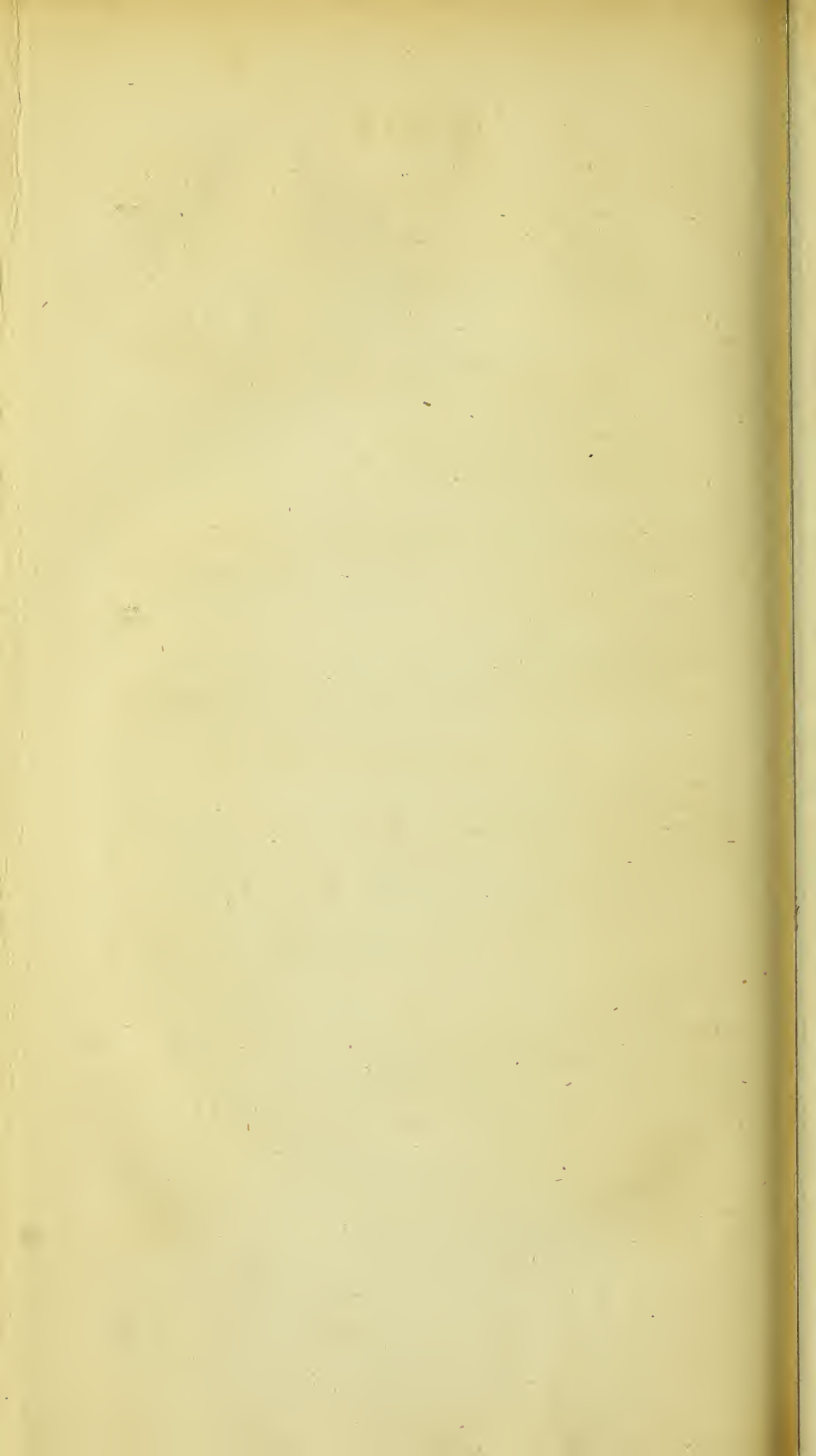
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Direction to the Binder.

Place the Plate opposite to P. 166.

